



THE TIMES
Monday

Pop...
A generation after the heyday of the Beatles Spectrum finds that big business has moved into pop... goes the MP
Furtively, in the small hours, MPs have voted to move house

Sparring...
The British Lightweight Boxing Championship: Sri Kumar Sen reports... partners

The Monday Page meets couples who work together - such as Judi Dench and Michael Williams



Hard times
First of a series on Mozambique, a land torn by war, drought and economic troubles

Cable & Wireless sale flops

The Government's privatisation programme suffered a setback as investors bid for only about 70 per cent of the Cable & Wireless shares offered in a £275m state sell-off.

Observers said the City had been discouraged by reports of a high striking price. Page 21

Police shake-up
A new police strategy, emphasising policing the community by consent, is disclosed in a Home Office circular to chief constables. Page 2

Transport Bill

A government Bill aimed at severing the link between London Transport and the Greater London Council and offering scope for privatisation has been published. Page 2

Arson ruling

The Court of Appeal cleared Bruce Lee, the Humberstone arsonist, of killing 11 men, but convictions relating to 15 other fire victims stand. Page 3

CND action

The CND is to decide this weekend at its annual conference whether it should take up nationally a campaign to persuade Servicemen to join the organization. Page 2

Space extra

The crew of the space shuttle Columbia are asking for an extra day in space to complete their heavy workload in the European SpaceLab. Page 4

Kidnap ordeal

Mr Alfred Heineken, the kidnapped brewery chief who was freed by police on Wednesday, has described how he was chained up in a cold damp cell for three weeks. Page 5

Blow to banks

Banks face a legal stumbling block in their attempt to introduce bank debit cards, which allow electronic transfer of funds at the shop till. Family Money, page 26

Air response

The Soviet Union has announced plans for a unified air traffic control system. Diplomats said the move might be a response to the downing of the Korean airliner three months ago. Relatively claim, page 4

Arsenal's jolt

Arsenal's chairman, Peter Hill-Wood, gave his players a pep talk before the club's home match against West Bromwich Albion today. Arsenal lost to third division Walsall on Tuesday. Page 30

Leader page 7
Letters on educational standards, from Mr Giles Radice, MP, and Mrs F. M. Andrews; airline safety, from Mr Mostyn Evans; telecommunications, from Mr W. J. Bray

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Sir Rowland Baker, Dame Ida Mann

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US tells Russia to keep out of the Middle East

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The new agreement on strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, reached during talks this week between President Reagan and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, is intended to send a clear message to the Soviet Union to stop its penetration into the Middle East, according to a senior American official.

It is also a warning to Syria, which is the main recipient of Soviet arms and other military assistance in the region, that it should urgently reconsider its persistent refusal to withdraw 40,000 of its troops from eastern Lebanon.

Although the official insisted that the US is not planning any joint offensive military actions with Israel, it is expected the accord will produce a new sense of assertiveness by Mr Shamir's Government. This could lead to further retaliatory strikes by Israel into Syrian-occupied Lebanon.

The Reagan Administration believes that this week's visits to Washington by Mr Shamir and President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon have laid the framework for a withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and in the longer term, reviving President Reagan's September 1, 1982, remark.

By enhancing Israel's sense of security against Soviet penetration in the Middle East, the US hopes Mr Shamir's Government will show greater pragmatism on the issues of Israeli troop withdrawals from Lebanon, US arms sales to moderate Arab states.

Picket line truce opens way for NGA peace talks

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Crucial talks aimed at resolving the Stockport Messenger dispute, which has threatened to involve the entire printing industry, will resume on Monday after a peace initiative yesterday from the National Graphical Association (NGA).

His task, although not so described, will be to make the actions of ministers seem as wise and benign and consistent with one another as the truth will allow, or, failing that, to prevent them saying anything to damage the Government.

It is one of the least envied duties of ministers. Mr John Biffen, the Leader of the Commons, who had shouldered it until yesterday, was said to be delighted to lay it down.

Lord Whitelaw, who did the same job for Mr Edward Heath from 1970 to 1972, has told Mrs Thatcher he is anxious to help. But he does not have exaggerated hopes of success. He will have no extra staff.

The day-to-day work of coordinating the output of government information from the Whitehall departments will remain with Mr Bernard Ingham, the Prime Minister's Press Secretary, who has easy and regular access to her. But Mr Ingham cannot interfere with the speeches of ministers.

Mr Biffen, who in theory was empowered to do so, would not have had the weight as the 14th ranking member of the Cabinet, even if he had the inclination, to suggest to the Foreign Secretary or to the Chancellor of the Exchequer what they should or should not say.

Yet Sir Geoffrey Howe, on the subject of Grenada, and Mr Nigel Lawson, on public expenditure and taxation, have both upset colleagues.

Mrs Thatcher hopes that Lord Whitelaw, the experienced conciliator, with all ambition spent, may be able to take them aside for a word without causing offence.

Mrs Thatcher's decision to bring in Lord Whitelaw is based on her and Mr Ingham's belief that the great increase in the government's Parliamentary majority at the election has made the Conservative Party more fistic and Fleet Street more critical.

The General Council agreed to assist the NUJ with its £8,000 legal costs and agreed in principle that, in the event of court sanctions, it would help the union to carry out its "lawful function on behalf of its members".

Mr David Dimbleby, the broadcaster and chairman of the *Richmond and Twickenham Times* group, yesterday said he would be seeking legal advice on Monday over whether he should be taking action because

he is not yet to get ahead of myself. I am also waiting to see if there are any other developments over the weekend...

Figures to be released next

Whitelaw to protect Government image

By Julian Harwood
Political Editor

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, has given her most senior colleague, Lord Whitelaw, the responsibility of improving presentation of government policy.

His task, although not so described, will be to make the actions of ministers seem as wise and benign and consistent with one another as the truth will allow, or, failing that, to prevent them saying anything to damage the Government.

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Tighter checks on candidates for honours lists

By Peter Hennessy

The Prime Minister has agreed to a request from the Political Honours Scrutiny Committee that the system be tightened up to prevent suspicions of impropriety and backdoor political patronage. The new procedure has been in operation for some time but full details have not been made public.

The committee of Privy Councillors was concerned that chairman of companies which donate to Conservative Party funds, who are honoured for their contribution to industry rather than for political services, could be suspected of receiving peerages or knight-

hoods for unacknowledged political reasons.

Since the 1920s the committee has acted as a watchdog against the improper use of political honours.

The scrutiny procedure was originally designed to prevent



Mr Walpole and the runaway carrier in the lounge of his home.

Runaway carrier wrecks houses

An 11-ton armoured personnel carrier ran out of control yesterday, crashing into three houses and ending up in the living room of a fourth. Several people were treated for shock.

The carrier, from Borden Camp, west Sussex, careered down Petersfield Road, Whitehill, Hampshire, demolished a lamp post and took off the porch of the house of Mrs Alice Ottewell, aged 80.

The Army offered to rehouse in their married quarters anyone made homeless in the incident.

The carrier ended up embedded in the living room of Mrs Sylvia Walpole.

Another of the houses clipped by the runaway vehicle was that of Mrs Marie Hunt, who is pregnant. Her husband George, aged 29, said: "I heard a big bang like a bomb going off and the whole house shuddered with everything moving."

"I could hear my wife screaming, and ran downstairs fearing she was trapped. There were cracks in the wall of the house you could put your hands through."

After the 10-minute hearing, Mr Shah said he had made it clear he was willing to postpone his action as long as the NGA had the grace to appear in court. It was not up to me to go to the courtroom and drop the action. I am grateful that we can at least get on with our contacts.

Mr Joe Wade, the NGA general secretary, said last night: "I am very pleased indeed. That is what we have been looking for all the way through: to get a settlement of the dispute." He would stand by over the weekend for any preliminary contacts.

On Thursday night Mr Tony Duggins, general secretary elect of the NGA, offered to lift the TUC's general council yesterday urged all unions to identify areas where support could be given to the NGA. It also agreed to provide financial assistance to enable it to continue to carry out its "lawful" functions.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said: "We can do a lot without having the courts on the TUC's back."

As police moved in on the parked getaway vehicle, one of the four raiders aimed a sawn-off shotgun at them. One policeman fired towards the car but it is thought no one was hit.

Mr Ottewell said she was in her kitchen when she heard a bang. "I ran to see what it was and my front door was down, the windows were smashed and everything was broken."

There were two men in the carrier when the accident happened.

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Mr David Groves, who runs Brockley Court old people's home, said: "A workman who saw what happened said he saw the police going towards these men."

"There was a shot and then it got very confusing. The gunman jumped over a wall chased by police and dogs."

Meanwhile, as detectives

Village sealed after gang escapes trap

Hundreds of police officers, some armed, were last night searching a patch of dense woodland near Bristol for an armed gang which had escaped a police trap.

Officers armed with revolvers and shotguns had lain in wait at the village of Brockley, where it is thought the gang had planned to ambush a mail van.

As police moved in on the parked getaway vehicle, one of the four raiders aimed a sawn-off shotgun at them. One policeman fired towards the car but it is thought no one was hit.

The gang fled for cover in the nearby Brockley Woods. Police later recovered a weapon, masks and ammunition from the car, which was believed to be stolen.

As they started their search of the woods, they closed all roads leading to the village, cordoned off an area a mile and a half in radius around it, and told villagers to stay indoors.

Mortgage rates cut early next year

By Lorna Bourke

Building societies are expected to postpone their hoped-for cut in mortgage rates until the new year because of continuing strong demand for home loans.

The Building Societies Association Council meets next week, but most societies favour a delay. The decision may be put off until February as there is no scheduled council meeting in January, although one could be called.

A spokesman for the Nationwide Building Society said: "I don't think there is any prospect of a cut next week. We are still experiencing very high demand for mortgages in spite of the fact that we would normally expect a seasonal downturn."

"There is no point cutting the rates to offer cheaper mortgages to fewer people. National Savings is giving us a good run for our money and the pressure from this quarter is unlikely to tail off."

Figures to be released next



Quality in an age of change.

Police block £5m IRA ransom

By Richard Ford and Stewart Tandler

Police throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland are working together to prevent payment by the Associated British Foods organization of a £5m ransom demanded by the Provisional IRA for the release of their kidnapped executive, Mr Don Tidey.

The ransom demanded by the terrorists last Sunday is the biggest ever made for the safe return of anyone abducted

New police strategy aims to mobilize public in fight against crime

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A new national police strategy to meet growing localised terrorist crime is being disclosed in a Home Office circular to chief constables and police authorities.

The circular is the knowledge that the police cannot be expanded indefinitely to meet increasing demands on them, vividly illustrated by demonstrations over cruise missiles and industrial relations policies.

The big expansion in police, in accordance with Conservative government commitments, is to be curtailed. There is to be new emphasis on policing by contact, taking local views into account. Chief constables will be more accountable to the local community and the Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan.

The police service is now up to strength at 121,000 officers in England and Wales. But chief constables want to meet growing demands. This gives Mr Brittan an added lever to ensure they follow criteria he is laying down. HM Inspectors will advise him whether resources are directed in accordance with property determined objectives and priorities.

To meet their statutory duty of securing an adequate and efficient force, police authorities are being urged to take into account not only questions of resources but the wishes of the local community. And the police clear-up rate has

fallen from 44 per cent in 1962 to 37 per cent in 1982. Even so, the number of offenders found guilty has increased from one and a quarter million in the early 1960s to well over two million in 1981. The prison population has risen by 50 per cent in the same period.

The circular marks a big switch to new crime prevention strategies and community policing, after discussions led by Sir Brian Cubbon, Permanent Under-Secretary at the Home Office, outside the department and with officials from other ministries. The new strategy also embodies reforms suggested by Lord Scarman after the 1981 riots.

The Home Office circular says it is necessary to work in cooperation with other public services, voluntary bodies and the public themselves. A new circular on crime prevention is to be issued soon. The circular is a recognition that previous policy has failed: neither the police, the courts, the prison service or probation service can tackle crime successfully.

The community must be mobilized to ensure this the new consultation arrangements and the police authorities, sometimes drawn into conflict with police chiefs, are seen as vital.

In real terms, taking inflation into account, there has been a three-fold increase in overall spending on law and order in the past 20 years. Yet recorded crime has risen by 200 per cent in relation to population size in the past 20 years.

The police clear-up rate has

Scores pledge cash for Greenpeace fine

By Tony Samstag

Greenpeace, the environmental action group, said yesterday that it had been overwhelmed by telephone calls from people offering contributions towards the £50,000 fine levied by a High Court judge on Thursday for contempt of court.

By luncheon scores of pledges totalling several thousand pounds had been received at the headquarters of Greenpeace Ltd, at 36 Graham Street, Islington, north London.

The group decided to abandon its initial resolution to pay the fine itself. Instead it will launch a formal appeal today.

Several pledges were for hundreds of pounds and one was for £1,500. At least one well-known musician offered to organize a benefit concert.

Greenpeace would not say whether it would continue trying to interfere with the pipe discharging waste from British Nuclear Fuel's processing plant at Sellafield, formerly Windscale, in Cumbria.

Mr Justice Congdon said that the group's assets would be seized if it continued to be in contempt of court by breaking an order not to do so.

The assets were said to be £70,000 in bank accounts and ships at £264,000.

Greenpeace was founded in 1971-72 by Mr David McTaggart, a Canadian, after protests against nuclear-weapons tests in Amchitka, Alaska, and the French-Pacific.

Recognizing that court action

Anti-vandal paint kills 20 birds

More than 20 robins, blackbirds and sparrows died after struggling to free themselves from non-drying anti-vandal paint on top of council garages. Some tore off wings and legs as they frantically fought to escape.

Mr Bill Cottingham, a chief inspector with the RSPCA who was called to the scene in Wickfield Road, Sheffield, South Yorkshire yesterday criticized council workers and blamed them for the deaths. "They had plastered the paint on half an inch thick and every bird that landed there became stuck."

Motorist dies in collision

Mr Gary McGonagle, aged 26, died yesterday when the car he was driving was involved in a collision with a motorcycle being followed by police. Mr McGonagle, of Malvern Place, Cheltenham, was driving through a crossroads near Cheltenham racecourse.

The rider of the 850cc motor cycle was badly injured. His condition in Cheltenham General Hospital was later described as comfortable.

Opera cancelled

The Royal Opera House cancelled last night's performance of Massenet's *Esclarmonde*, because Dame Joan Sutherland, the Australian soprano, has a throat infection. Instead, there was a performance of *Madam Butterfly*.

Life for arson

A security guard and former policeman Kirpal Singh, aged 43, of Bedford Lane, Feltham, north London, was jailed for life by the Central Criminal Court yesterday for setting fire to his home with six members of his family inside.

Death fall

Mrs Emma Smith, aged 27, a barrister of Fulham, London, died accidentally in a 250ft fall at Lundy Island, off the North Devon coast, the North and West Devonshire coroner found yesterday.

CND to debate freeze

By Par Healy

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament will decide at its annual conference in Sheffield this weekend whether to follow its leadership in backing a nuclear freeze campaign and whether it should campaign nationally for members of the armed forces to join CND.

The conference, will also review last year's argument over Nato.

A significant proportion of the membership, which has increased by 60 per cent in the last year, believe a freeze would

Sale room

National Gallery spends £81,000 on Bilbao view

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The National Gallery spent £81,000 at Christie's yesterday on its first eighteenth century painting from Spain, other than a Goya. It is a view of a Spanish harbour with some well-dressed society figures in the foreground painted on panel by Luis Paret and dated 1784. It comes from a series of harbour views and the gallery has succeeded in identifying the location - which Christie's had failed to do.

It is a "View of El Arenal de Bilbao", by which name the painting will in future be known, according to the gallery. A second "View of a Spanish harbour" from the same series but dated 1783 was included in the sale and the gallery had hoped to secure both. After the other sold for £59,400, it concentrated all its resources on securing the second. The Hazlitt, Gooden and Fox gallery bid on behalf of Christie's.

A spokesman for the gallery said Paret had been a contemporary of Goya and his work was rare. This painting had largely ignored it until a visitor noticed it and took it away for examination.

£370,000 firescreen

An heirloom once used as a firescreen was sold for £370,000 by Sotheby's in London this week, after it had been identified as the only known oil painting by Hans Hoffmann, a sixteenth century follower of Durer (our York correspondent writes).

The painting of a hare had been inherited by Mrs Ann Hartas and her husband, Norman, of Manor Farm, Pickering, north Yorkshire. They had largely ignored it until a visitor noticed it and took it away for examination.



Royal visitor: The Princess of Wales opening a training centre for handicapped adults in Wantage, Oxfordshire, yesterday. The £276,000 centre will cater for 34 trainees.

Ridley unveils Bill to take over London Transport

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

The Government yesterday published its London Regional Transport Bill and so took the first step towards wresting control of the capital's buses and tubes from Mr Kenneth Livingstone and his fellow politicians at the Greater London Council.

Ministers indicated that their enthusiasm for ending municipal "interference" in London Transport took precedence even over cutting public spending, an ambition the new system is unlikely to achieve for some time.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, acknowledged there would be no "massive" savings and that at least initially there could be a significant rise in the subsidy for public transport in London from the general taxpayer.

Mr Livingstone argued the Bill as "free for all" seizing on the Government's vulnerable point, the future of free and concessionary fares for pensioners. The London boroughs would not step in and continue the GLC's generosity to pensioners, he forecast.

London Transport took a hands-off approach to the new Bill. Its chairman Dr Keith Bright said it was up to the politicians to decide whether the Government or the GLC should control it.

The Bill, which the Government hopes will become law in time to make 1985-86 the new authority's first year of operation, severs the link between London Transport and the GLC. The Labour-controlled GLC is supposed to be abolished in 1986.

Buses and tubes, organized in two separate companies, are to be run by a board of "businesslike" managers nominated by the Government, with a duty to break even on the basis of an annual subsidy similar to that given to British Rail.

Mr Ridley has built in great scope for privatization; private

firms can apply for any London bus route.

Subsidies are to be paid to London Transport, a third from the taxpayers and two thirds from London ratepayers. The Department of Transport would set a rates figure in the way that the Home Office does on behalf of the Metropolitan Police and borough ratepayers would have it put on their bills each year.

If they wish London boroughs can still provide concessionary bus and tube passes for the elderly but Mr Ridley was not forthcoming about how such schemes are to be financed.

At present the GLC subsidizes the outer London boroughs' pensioners because it can take money from commercial ratepayers in the City and Westminster.

The Government envisages there will be redundancies among London Transport staff. Mr Ridley did not exonerate the Conservative councillors, who have controlled London Transport for six of the past twelve years, from blame for failing to keep costs down. "We have got to call a halt. It is quite clear that London's public transport can be provided more cheaply and more attractively."

However, Mr Ridley promised that fares would rise under the new scheme by no more than the going rate of inflation: the Government was to stick by London Transport's existing three-year plan which envisages only a small cut in the number of bus miles and the same Underground services as now.

During 1983-84 London Transport receives £370m in subsidy, 80 per cent of which comes from the taxpayer. Mr Ridley would make no predictions about what the level of subsidy would be when he took over but seemed to accept that there would be no significant or immediate savings, implying that substantial subsidy levels might persist.

Unsure Kasparov offers a draw

By Harry Golombok
Chess Correspondent

The postponed fifth game between Gary Kasparov and Viktor Korchnoi in Acorn Computers World Chess Championship semi-finals on Thursday at the Great Eastern Hotel, London, ended in a draw after five hours in the match score.

Kasparov played the Catalan System for the first time in a championship and obtained some pressure, but Korchnoi never really appeared to be in difficulties.

A sign that Kasparov was not really feeling at home in the position was that he took considerably more time on his moves than his opponent.

At the end of the game he had taken one hour and 40 minutes against his opponent's hour and 10 minutes.

After Korchnoi, with the black pieces, had made his 21st move Kasparov offered him a draw which Korchnoi at once accepted.

Kasparov's offer of a draw after his opponent had moved was not in accord with the rules of chess.

But the law that one should offer a draw only after making one move is a regulation more honoured in its breach than its observance.

The game, in spite of its brevity, was well fought and lively.

However, if Kasparov wishes to save the match he must break through Korchnoi's defences and win a game. So far he has not looked likely to do so.

Fifth game

White Kasparov, Black Korchnoi

Q pawn, Catalan system

1 P-K4 P-QB4 13 C-K2 B-B5

2 P-KB4 P-Q3 14 N-N3 Q-N3

3 P-B3 P-Q4 15 B-N5 KR-Q1

4 B-B2 P-B4 16 Q-B3 KR-B1

5 N-B3 P-B5 17 N-N3 R-B8

6 N-QB3 P-B4 18 Q-R3 R1-Q1

7 N-N3 P-B5 19 KR-B1 R1-Q1

8 N-B3 P-B4 20 P-QN4 R1-Q1

9 N-QB3 P-QN4 21 B-B4 R1-Q1

10 Q-N3 R-B1 22 draw agreed

Moves 23 and 24 in the fifth game between Smyslov and Ribli on Wednesday, published yesterday, should have read:

23 N-B3 R-B1 24 draw

N-84

Yoko Ono, widow of John Lennon, the musician, said at Heathrow airport yesterday that she would give a large sum to the Strawberry Fields Salvation Home in Liverpool.

Before returning to New York after a five-day visit to Britain, she said that the gift could be more than £2m. Lennon referred to the home in the Beatles' song, "Strawberry Fields Forever".

Ban on public illegal, health authority told

By our Social Services Correspondent

Brent Health Authority in London has been told that a special meeting it is to hold on Monday to vote through a £250,000 government spending cut will be illegal and its decisions void.

Mrs Nina Talmage, the Conservative chairman of the authority, decided to bar the public from the meeting after last month's meeting was broken up by protesters to prevent a vote on the spending cut.

But the London borough of Brent's director of law, after taking counsel's opinion from Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, has told the health authority that it can exclude the public only once disorder has taken place within a meeting.

However Mr David Pashley, district administrator of the health authority, said legal advice he had received was that the chairman was acting within his powers in barring the public.

The meeting would go ahead, he said, unless an injunction was served preventing it, or the health authority members voted at the start of the meeting to admit the public.

Beer allegation

Thirty-two people were remanded on bail at Widnes Magistrates' Court, Cheshire, yesterday on charges relating to an alleged conspiracy to steal beer from Greenall Whitley, the brewers.

Overseas selling prices

15 December 1983

US \$1.00, Canada \$1.00, Australia \$1.00, New Zealand \$1.00, South Africa \$1.00, Japan Y100, France F100, Germany DM100, Italy L100, Spain P100, Portugal P100, Greece Dr100, Holland Gfl100, Belgium Fl100, Luxembourg L100, Switzerland Fr100, Norway Kr100, Sweden Kr100, Denmark Kr100, Iceland Kr100, Austria Sch100, Czechoslovakia Ks100, Hungary Ft100, Poland Zl100, Turkey L100, Russia R100, Bulgaria L100, Yugoslavia D100, Greece Dr100, Turkey L100, USA \$1.00, Canada \$1.00, Australia \$1.00, New Zealand \$1.00, South Africa \$1.00, Japan Y100, France F100, Germany DM100, Italy L100, Spain P100, Portugal P100, Greece Dr100, Holland Gfl100, Belgium Fl100, Luxembourg L100, Switzerland Fr100, Norway Kr100, Sweden Kr100, Denmark Kr100, Iceland Kr100, Austria Sch100, Czechoslovakia Ks100, Hungary Ft100, Poland Zl100, Turkey L100, Russia R100, Bulgaria L100, Yugoslavia D100, Greece Dr100, Turkey L100, USA \$1.00, Canada \$1.00, Australia \$1.00, New Zealand \$1.00, South Africa \$1.00, Japan Y100, France F100, Germany DM100, Italy L100, Spain P100, Portugal P100, Greece Dr100, Holland Gfl100, Belgium Fl100, Luxembourg L100, Switzerland Fr100, Norway Kr100, Sweden Kr100, Denmark Kr100, Iceland Kr100, Austria Sch100, Czechoslovakia Ks100, Hungary Ft100, Poland Zl100, Turkey L100, Russia R100, Bulgaria L100, Yugoslavia D100, Greece Dr100, Turkey L100, USA \$1.00, Canada \$1.00, Australia \$1.00, New Zealand \$1.00, South Africa \$1.00, Japan Y100, France F100, Germany DM100, Italy L100, Spain P100, Portugal P100, Greece Dr100, Holland Gfl100, Belgium Fl100, Luxembourg L100,

Bruce Lee cleared of 11 killings, but convictions on 15 fire victims stand

Bruce Lee, the self-confessed Humber-side arsonist, was cleared in the Court of Appeal yesterday of causing the death of eleven elderly men in a fire at an old people's home.

But the decision to quash Lee's convictions for arson and manslaughter in this incident will not mean that he will be freed. He is still detained in a mental hospital for 10 other fires which killed another 15 people.

After a short adjournment during which Mr Harry Ognall QC, Lee's counsel, saw him in the cells below the court, Mr Ognall returned to court and announced that Lee would withdraw his two remaining applications for leave to appeal.

The withdrawn applications related to fires at Askew Avenue, Hull, in June 1973 and West Dock Avenue, Hull, in January 1977. Lord Justice Ackner, sitting with Mr Justice Glidewell and Mr Justice Leggett, said they would be formally dismissed and the court would give a full judgment next week.

Quashing Lee's convictions of starting a fire at Wensley Lodge, Hull, on January 5, 1977, and the manslaughter of the eleven men, Lord Justice Ackner said the convictions were not safe. The main reason was the "unsatisfactory nature of the forensic evidence".

The judge said that the Home Office Scientist, Mr Graham Devonport, should have suggested to the 1977 inquiry into the cause of the fire that it might have been deliberately started with paraffin. If that had been suggested, the construction of the room where the fire was

discovered could have been checked more closely to see if Lee's story about using paraffin and paper to start the fire was supported by the scientific evidence.

Lord Justice Ackner said the court was making no criticism of Det Supt Ronald Sagar, the policeman who interviewed Lee after his arrest.

The Court of Appeal hearing, which lasted nine days, opened with Lee seeking leave to appeal against all his convictions. After being refused leave to appeal over fires at homes in Selby Street and Troutbeck House, Hull, Lee's lawyers withdrew six other applications and concentrated on the last three cases.

The court had been told that a committee of inquiry into the Wensley Lodge fire decided that it had been started by a plumber's blowtorch accidentally setting light to ceiling boards.

But, after Lee confessed to the police and told them he started the fire with paraffin, inquiries were reopened. During the appeal, defence experts said that the facts of the fire did not fit Lee's story, which he had denied telling police.

After the hearing Lee's lawyers said they would consider asking the Home Secretary to look into the cases on which he was refused leave to appeal.

Yesterday's court decision means that Lee no longer holds the title "Britain's most prolific killer", given to him by *The Guinness Book of Records*. With 15 deaths still on his record Lee is now equal with Dennis Nilsen, recently convicted of killing 15 people.



Lee: Denied confession.



Family reunion: Police Constable Bill Hopkins, from East Grinstead, organized a surprise for his wife Sylvia at Surrey police headquarters, Guildford, yesterday. He arranged for their son Peter to fly from the United States and play the villain on the last day of his 13-week training course with Shane, his new alias.

Witnesses given cash by accused doctor

A doctor accused of serious professional misconduct said yesterday that he had given money to witnesses in his General Medical Council hearing.

Dr Dasrath Rai, aged 61, giving evidence to the professional conduct committee, admitted that after the hearing on Thursday he was approached by drug addicts.

The first person approached me had no bus fare to go home. I gave him £1.

A second person came up to me. He was from Worthing and had no money. I gave him £5.

It is alleged that Dr Rai sold prescriptions for hard drugs for £10 or £15 from his former private practice in Bateman Street, Soho, London, other than for bona fide treatment.

Dr Rai told the committee that he had told patients of the dangers of injecting by using Dicanol tablets, a heroin substitute.

The people that died, injected. They didn't die from the treatment I tried to carry out.

Dr Rai said that he prescribed Dicanol because it was the most convenient drug to wean people off heroin.

If I found a patient buying drugs on the black market I would take him off my list immediately.

He said that his initial fee was £30, which included a consultation and prescription.

Dr Rai said that he thought he took between £400 and £500 a week from March to October, 1982 - not £1,000 a week.

He denied that he had shown irresponsibility in his treatment of two patients who died.

The hearing continues

Drug safety for elderly tightened

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

The Committee on Safety of Medicines is to tighten the licensing system for new drugs widely used by the elderly after a Oprea controversy, the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday.

Drug companies will have to carry out studies on how the elderly cope with the drugs after evidence that Oprea accumulated in their bodies.

Oprea, used to treat arthritis, was withdrawn in August last year, after it was linked with the deaths of 76 people and after 3,800 people were reported to have suffered significant side effects.

BBC plans nuclear war play

By David Hewson

The BBC is planning a 90-minute drama on the aftermath of a nuclear attack among people in Sheffield. The play, due to be shown in about a year, was commissioned 18 months ago, before the controversy over the American production *The Day After* which will be seen on independent television on December 10.

Mr Michael Jackson, producer of the BBC play, said yesterday: "We have no axe to grind. We have talked to people from CND, people from the Home Office and scientific advisers in Britain and America, to try to come up with the most likely course of events after a nuclear attack."

The play, called *Threads* and written by Barry Hines, the author of *Kes*, starts five weeks before a nuclear attack and ends

● Britain's teenagers are overwhelmingly pessimistic about the probability of a nuclear war, but also largely ignorant about the nature of nuclear weapons, according to a survey.

Mr Jackson said that Sheffield was selected as the site of the play because it is where Mr Hines lives, and is in the centre of Britain.

Both Mr Jackson and Mr Hines took part in a home defence college course for local government workers on dealing with post-nuclear Britain, and some quarters of the play tackle the administration of society after the bomb. The play will also describe the effects on the local economy, climate and agriculture.

Dry summer seals Pakamac's fate

By Alan Hamilton

Pakamac, a name synonymous for the past quarter-century with the vagaries of the British weather, has fallen into the hands of the receiver.

By a cruel irony, the very unpredictability of British rain on which the company built its folding plastic raincoat fortune was in the end its downfall; this year's long dry summer dealt sales a mortal blow.

The firm was based, inevitably, in Manchester, the English capital of wet weather. This week two accountants from the firm of Deloitte Haskins and Sells moved into the company's headquarters at Warwick Mill in Middleton, north Manchester, to study the books in the hope of saving the business as a going concern.

Pakamac's directors derived little satisfaction from the fact



Pakamac at the height of its popularity in the 1960s.

Severn Bridge critics win reassurance

Mr John Stradling Thomas, Minister of State at the Welsh Office, yesterday denied allegations that the government was "burying its head in the sand" over the problem of the Severn Bridge.

The Government, he said, appreciated the need to strengthen the bridge, to improve alternative routes and to start work on a second crossing of the Severn estuary. Options put forward by engineering consultants were being assessed.

Aid plan for uncommercial new books

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

Book publishers and the Arts Council are working on the formation of a Literature Investment Trust which would subsidise the publication of uncommercial books.

The provisional estimates are that £150,000 would come from the Arts Council and £40,000 from publishers, the secretary general of the council, Mr Luke Rittner, said yesterday.

ITV microcomputer may be launched

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The independent television companies are to decide in about 10 days whether to compete with the success of the BBC Microcomputer and launch their own product.

Although several microcomputer companies have been investigated, including Transam, which is based in London, there is a division of opinion among the executives of the television companies. Those who oppose the scheme fear that a commitment to one product would rob them of advertisements for competing products.

The Independent Television Companies Association's council meet on December 12. Talks with the Independent

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SIMPLY YEARS AHEAD

PHILIPS

Tory rebels give boost to Thatcher 'no deal, no cash' message to EEC

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The Tory rebels who abstained or voted against the Government on Thursday night in the debate on the EEC budget have done sterling service for Mrs Margaret Thatcher. Their message is precisely the one which she will be delivering forcefully from the time the European summit opens in Athens tomorrow afternoon to the time it ends some 48 difficult hours later.

The message is: No deal – no money. In other words, if the British Government and Parliament cannot be satisfied with the outcome of this crisis summit, there is no chance at all of the Community being given the extra cash it must have if it is not to go bankrupt, stagnate and disintegrate.

That has been the British message ever since the Stuttgart summit in June. It has been the *Leitmotiv* of Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mr Nigel Lawson through the 11 very long days of complicated negotiation which they have slogged their way through on the way to the summit. It is only in the course of the last week, however, that the message appears to have got through. If there were any doubt at all, the remaining vote in Westminster should have dispelled it.

The British delegation is travelling to Athens with no illusions that the argument is going to be easy to win.

"Experience has taught us that it is better to approach these negotiations, not with optimism or pessimism, but with determination," an official said yesterday.

Mrs Thatcher, who will be attending her fourteenth summit, will be the most experienced in the ways of the EEC of all the leaders in Athens.

Underlying all the argument so far has been a mercenary clash of philosophies between those countries who believed the Community could spend its way out of trouble and those countries who would have had to provide the cash to do this. The would-be spenders were not net contributors to the EEC Budget.

What has happened in the course of the past week is that France has come down very firmly and clearly on the side of good housekeeping by tabling a paper on how to impose budgetary control. That has made the other countries realize at last that the spending has to stop.

France timed its sophisticated paper for controlling spending very carefully. It arrived in time for the summit.

Two VIPs at Downing St



Mr Thorn: Visited 10 capitals for views.



M Chirac: Surprised by Britain's European spirit.



Former spy chief held in bribes case

From John Earle
Rome

General Giuseppe Santovito, former head of Italian military intelligence and a member of the banned P2 Masonic lodge, was arrested here early yesterday, day on orders of a magistrate investigating a Mafia-type bribe case.

The central figure in the case is Signor Alvaro Giardini, a businessman arrested a month ago and accused of being involved in offering bribes for two contracts, one to rebuild houses after the Naples earthquake of 1980, the other to conduct an aerial photographic survey of Sicily.

The authorities have given no details of the charge against General Santovito or of his alleged involvement in the Giardini investigation.

After his arrest, the general's wife, Giulietta, said: "A plot is under way against my husband and his arrest is the proof."

Junta did not expect a war

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

The latest published excerpts from the top-secret Rattenbach report on Argentina's defeat in the Falklands war reveal that the junta which ordered the occupation of the islands did not seriously consider the possibility that Britain would react with military force.

The weekly magazine *Siete Días* published on Wednesday the second instalment of extracts from the military's definitive investigation of the war, which strongly condemns the decision to seize the islands and states that confused strategic planning led the country into a war for which it was not prepared.

A British reaction, including the massive use of military force, was considered little short of impossible" by the military and civilian officials who planned the Argentine occupation, the report says.

In a nine-month study of the war, the special military commission which drafted the report found that the military junta began planning an invasion of the Falklands as early as January 12, 1982, several months before Argentine workers on South Georgia triggered a diplomatic incident which led to the war.

In its last scheduled meeting before turning over power to the

but too late to be tampered with, by the Greek Presidency. If the approach it sets out is accepted by the summit – and the signs are that this could well happen – then detailed negotiation on it would take place next year when France is in the chair.

The French move has left the other countries with little choice. Either they accept a system of budgetary control, or they risk a failure at Athens which could destroy the Community.

Those "suitably specific" conclusions would have to be clear enough for Mrs Thatcher to be absolutely certain that there would be meaningful controls on Community spending and that Britain would not have to make a net contribution to the Community larger than a modest 0.1 per cent of the gross domestic product. At present levels, that would be about £270m a year.

Only against such cast-iron assurances would Mrs Thatcher be prepared to consider recommending to the British Parliament that there should be an increase in the so-called "VAT ceiling".

At present, member-states are required to pay up to 1 per cent of value added tax receipts from a common basket of goods and services. That money is now not enough to meet the bills, and there will have to be a higher VAT rate if it is ever going to be possible to bring in Spain and Portugal, introduce new policies or even go on paying existing costs – hence the crisis.

If that ceiling is raised, Sir Geoffrey made clear to the Commons during the debate, that is because it would only agree to raising the ceiling if it won an adequate reduction in its contributions.

One cloud on the horizon is the European Parliament, which meets the following week to carry out a post mortem on the summit. It has given a warning that it might throw next year's budget out if insufficient progress is made, but the threat seems somewhat empty.

● LONDON: Mrs Thatcher made it clear she was sticking hard to her ultra-tough line during an hours talk with Mr Gaston Thorn, the President of the EEC Commission, in Downing Street yesterday (Patricia Clough writes).

The English are more European than we think in France and more than in the past," he said at the end of a three-day "private" visit filled with meetings with public figures, including Mrs Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary

in an Amsterdam warehouse, said in a separate statement that he invented excuses to try and keep active, despite his chains.

Nine of the 20 people still held in connection with the kidnapping were released yesterday. Police said they were satisfied the five women and four men had nothing to do with it.

Police are still seeking three men, at least two of whom are believed to be in Spain, and about \$9m (£4.5m) of an \$11m ransom payment.

Police, who watched the kidnappers for some days before the ransom payment and rescue, believe they hold at least four of the organizers of the crime.

Mr Heineken's chauffeur, Mr Ab Dodderer, who was held in an adjoining cell

waking time in his cell pondering or reading by the light of a single, poor bulb. "There was no daylight apart from through a single small hole in the ceiling," his statement said. "My left hand was chained fast, so my freedom of movement was almost nil."

They said they realized they were held close to each other only after four days. Mr Dodderer said he realized he was being rescued when he heard a voice say: "Damn, there is no match," and he guessed that police were trying to break in.

Both men said they were in good health, and Mr Heineken added that he had kept his sense of humour during captivity "although there wasn't much chance to exercise it".

Botha defies the West on reforms

By Leslie Plommer

Mr R. F. P. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, declared in London yesterday that his Government would not make changes based on external demands amounting to a recipe for "capitalism" by the South African administration.

He was "sick" of complaints from abroad and tired of "hypocritical and false moral attitudes" held by some Governments in Europe and elsewhere towards South Africa.

But Mr Botha's visit to London as part of a tour of Western capitals has apparently taken some of the heat out of South Africa's relations with the British Government. Nevertheless, neither side has changed its position as a result of his hour-long talk yesterday with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary. The two also met informally last night at the South African Embassy.

Both ministers had been expecting a stormy session yesterday,

Pretoria forestalls Seychelles plot

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Another attempt to form a mercenary force to carry out a coup d'état in the Seychelles is being investigated by police in South Africa.

Mr Louis Le Grange, Minister of Law and Order, said in a statement in Pretoria yesterday that five people have been detained and are being interrogated by the security police. They included British and Zimbabwe citizens.

Mr Le Grange said the South African Government took a serious view of the alleged plan and was "not prepared to allow any such developments to take place within this country."

According to the police information, the plan was instigated by people living in Britain representing a Seychelles exile organization, the *Mouvement Pour la Résistance*.

In November, 1981, a group of mercenaries recruited in South Africa and led by Colonel Michael "Mad Mike" Hoare staged an unsuccessful attempt to overthrow the Seychelles

trial was held after an international outcry over South Africa's apparent indifference to the coup attempt which was summed up by a remark made by Mr Le Grange: "All they did was break a few windows."

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The men have appealed against the sentence and their lawyers have advised them not to make a choice in the meantime. If castrated, they would go on probation for five years.

Many people are disturbed by the idea that violent men could go free after being castrated or that mutilation could be considered an alternative to a jail sentence.

Dr Runcie made an unofficial visit to China in January, 1982, when he went to a Protestant seminary in Nanking but did not come to Peking.

Asked whether he would raise the issue of four Chinese Catholic priests who have been imprisoned for refusing to renounce ties with the Vatican, the Archbishop said: "We will see what we shall raise when we see what the programme is."

A spokesman said the church had a role in creating trust and understanding over the future of Hongkong after the lease on most of the British colony expires in 1997.

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Other opponents of the sentence suggest castration might not necessarily prevent men having sex and raping again.

Rapists plea against castration

From Trevor Fishlock

New York

Three men convicted in South Carolina of raping and torturing a woman are appealing against the extraordinary and controversial sentence passed on them. The judge said they could choose between 30 years in jail or surgical castration.

The sentence has been strongly praised and fiercely criticized.

Castration is favoured by advocates of tougher official attitudes to criminals, but it is condemned by others as barbaric and unconstitutional.

The judge's critics say: "If as a society, we say it is all right to castrate rapists, we might also agree that we should offer thieves the choice between jail and having a hand cut off."

The rape case shocked the small town of Anderson. Judge Victor Pyle said it was the "most horrible" he had ever heard. The three men – aged 27, 21 and 19 – pleaded guilty to raping a 23-year-old woman over a period of six hours in a motel. She was also burnt with a cigarette lighter and lost four pints of blood.

Judge Pyle has said he will not change the sentence. He claims it is fair because the three are not being forced to submit to castration – they have a choice.

The men have appealed against the sentence and their lawyers have advised them not to make a choice in the meantime. If castrated, they would go on probation for five years.

Many people are disturbed by the idea that violent men could go free after being castrated or that mutilation could be considered an alternative to a jail sentence.

The director of a rape advice centre in South Carolina said rape is a crime of violence rather than of sex. She said castration of rapists had an emotional appeal, but there was a danger that castrated men might be even more violent after the operation.

Other opponents of the sentence suggest castration might not necessarily prevent men having sex and raping again.

The Australian High Court reserved judgment on the final appeal of Lindy Chamberlain against a life sentence for murdering her baby daughter in the so-called Dingo murder case. Chamberlain, aged 35, jailed in April, had maintained that a dingo snatched her baby.

Dog deadline

Peking (AP) – Dog owners in Peking have been given three more weeks to get rid of their pets voluntarily before the authorities enforce a ban on them. Despite official claims that extermination teams have killed 200,000 dogs in the past six weeks, there have been no reported sightings of the extermination squads.

Briton freed

Johannesburg (Reuter) – Mr David Rabkin, a British journalist who was jailed in 1976 for 10 years for offences under South Africa's terrorism and internal security laws, has been freed, three years before his sentence expired.

Dingo case

Canberra (Reuter) – The Australian High Court reserved judgment on the final appeal of Lindy Chamberlain against a life sentence for murdering her baby daughter in the so-called Dingo murder case. Chamberlain, aged 35, jailed in April, had maintained that a dingo snatched her baby.

Nazi centre

Bonn (Reuter) – Parliament approved a motion by the opposition Social Democrats to establish a public documentation and information centre chronicling the Nazi persecution of Jews and other people.

Proconsul ape did not reign alone

Nairobi – Remains of a 17 million-year-old ape-like creature, discovered recently in northern Kenya, are expected to lead to a revision of theories about the earliest ancestors of man and apes (Charles Harrison writes).

Mr Richard Leakey, director of the National Museums of Kenya, said here yesterday that the latest finds, made in a waterless area close to the Ethiopian border a few weeks ago, were "clearly distinct" from the proconsul ape, which is known to have existed at the same period and hitherto was to be the earliest ancestor of all primates and man.

Now it seems that the proconsul was not alone – but lived alongside a different creature, twice the size of proconsul, and with a quite different jaw and facial characteristics.

First news of the finds was given in Washington by an American professor, Alan Walker, who took part in the expedition. The announcement angered Mr Leakey.

Basques bomb US targets

San Sebastian (Reuter) – Basque separatist guerrillas, in the worst campaign against US interests in the region for many years, bombed eight American targets causing extensive damage but no injuries.

The bombs exploded on Thursday night in Coca Cola plants here and in Pamplona, at the offices of the NCR computer company in San Sebastian and in Vitoria and at a Pepsi-Cola plant in Vitoria.

Flynt held for trying to flee

Anchorage (Reuter) – Mr Larry Flynt, the sex magazine publisher, saying he wanted to go to Moscow to give President Andropov a cancer cure to Alaska yesterday – and was promptly arrested and ordered back to Los Angeles.

He was detained for breaking an order not to leave the jurisdiction of a Los Angeles court, which is fining him \$12,500 a day for refusing to reveal the source of a tape recording involving the car maker John De Lorean.

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Save the Children Fund

The best gift for many children this Christmas is the gift of life. A bowl of food for a starving boy in Ethiopia. A nurse's care for a sick child in Uganda.

Father Christmas can't make it happen. You can. They need food, medicine and shelter now. Five pounds will feed the little boy for a month. Twenty pounds will help to build a new life for that child in Uganda.

This Christmas spare a thought for these and many other children.

Please send a donation to The Save the Children Fund using this coupon or ansaphone 01-701 0894 for Access/Barclaycard.

To: The Save the Children Fund, Dept. 3231214, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD.
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SPORTING DIARY

Potent penalty

A warning to all footballers: do not score a hat-trick. A man can get himself sent off that way. Referee Clive "The Book" Thomas of Portcawl has vowed that players doing too much celebrating after scoring will be warned for the first offence, booked for the second and sent off for the third.

Mr Thomas who booked seven people and sent off an eighth for non-scoring offences) in a midweek match, is concerned that running at crowds and making phallic gestures of delight and defiance to friend and foes causes crowd violence. I recently saw a senior international player sparring with the opposition crowd with his celebrations.

Hard Times

Spare a thought for Paul Harrison. For the first time in three seasons of reporting on volleyball for *The Times*, he's had a real story: mighty Speedwell Runcorn's run of 79 wins ended last weekend. Unfortunately, the paper didn't appear.

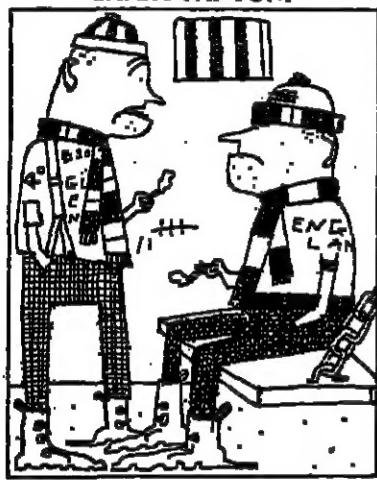
Orient excess

The Orient Express trip to Cheltenham for the Gold Cup will set you back £120, but don't try to sneak on board without a ticket. On last year's trip to Cheltenham there was one slowway on the outward journey and two on the return; they were escorted to the baggage compartment and set down at the first convenient point. There were also two slowways on the Hennessey Gold Cup trip to Newbury last weekend, but they both coughed up and the Injured Jockeys' Fund benefited from their transgression.

Red letter day

Officials in East Germany are unhappy about their visa application forms for the Olympic Games in Los Angeles next summer and have sent a letter of protest to the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee. The form put membership of the communist party in the same category as drug addiction and contagious diseases.

BARRY FANTONI



'At least we get good reception on Radio Luxembourg'

Dressed to kilt

Darts players are ready to cast aside their embroidered matronly smocks and don dinner suits. A tobacco company plans to sponsor a smoother, up-market game of darts. The worrying news is that Jocky Wilson will wear a kilt. "I've got the legs for it," he says.

Swanning about

And the result of the varsity match is Cambridge University 100 points (15 goals 10 behinds); Oxford 51 points (seven goals nine behinds). The match, played at Trinity College new field recently, was of course Australian Rules football. For some unfathomable reason, Swan Lager were asked to sponsor the occasion, and did so with a warm heart and cold tinnies.

• Quote of the Week: Even if the club goes bust, it is better than moving to Milton Keynes - Tom Hunt, spokesman for Luton Town Supporters Club.

Starting Price

If the bookies trembled at Fontwell Park last week, who can blame them? The effervescent former trainer Ryan Price was making his first trip to the races for 14 months after being laid low by illness. A blow to see such a man on the sidelines, but for all that every Price-trained horse I backed seemed to lose. Captain Price will be able to live with that, however. For 20 years he has consistently managed to maintain that he never bets.

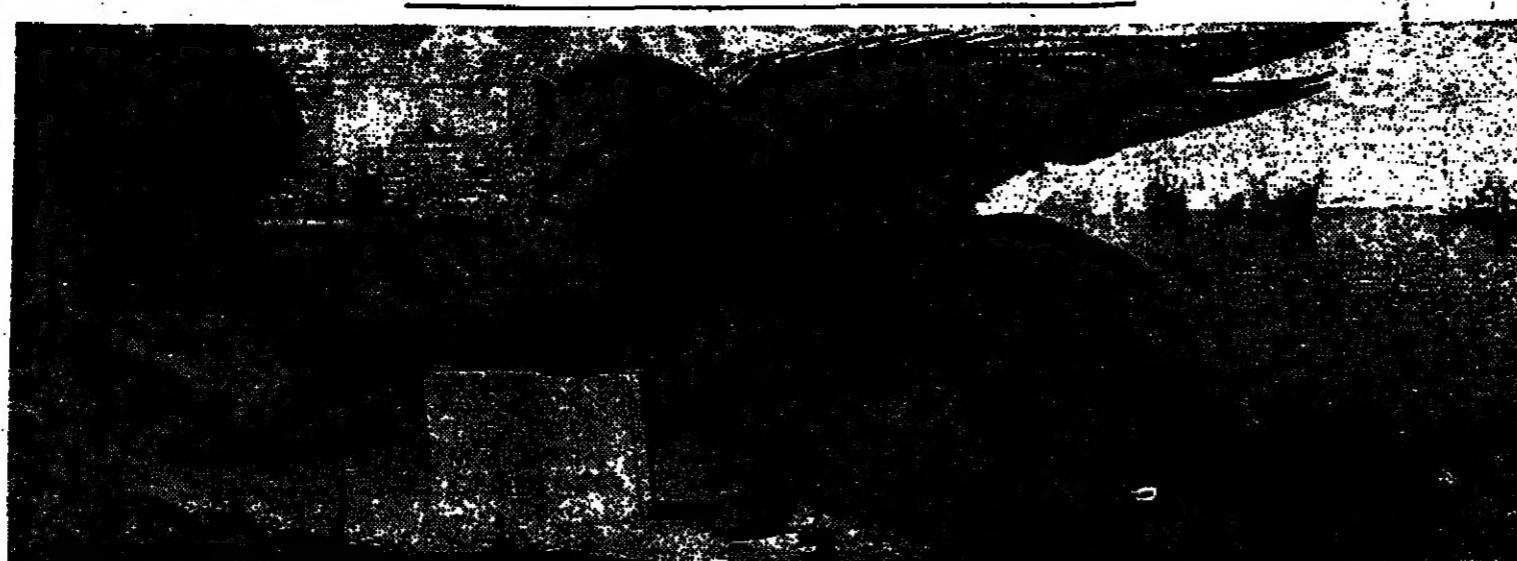
Nice one, Fred

Freddie Trueman has probably caused more radios to be dropped through more French windows than any other sport commentator. He is a man renowned for his discerning and above all, generous criticism of the modern fast bowler. My favorite example of Trueman at his best has always been his remark: "I should be ashamed to draw my pay if I bowled like that in a Test. The worst bowling with a new ball I've ever seen." That was at Old Trafford in 1981 and the bowler criticized was Bob Willis. In his next six overs, the Goose took three wickets.

Now I learn of another fine example of Trueman at work. Commenting on a match between Australia and West Indies, with Australia 100 for two, Trueman said: "Winston Davis knows he can never be a fast bowler." Australia all out for 151, Davis seven for 51.

Simon Barnes

Bernard Levin at the Royal Academy



Carpaccio's Lion: from the Doge's Palace to pride of place in Piccadilly

There was I, in the Royal Academy, standing in front of Titian's *The Flaying of Marsyas* and doing no harm to anybody, when up comes Professor John Hale himself and seized my arm. "By thy long grey beard and glittering eye", I inquired, "now wherefore stopp'st thou me?" He held me with his glittering eye (I could not choose but hear), and thus spoke on that ancient man, the bright-eyed Mariner. "You must write", he said, "an entire article about this picture." I demurred, but thought it only right to give my reasons. "I fear thee, ancient Mariner", I remarked; "I fear thy skinny hand. And", I added, "thou art long and lank and brown, as is the ribbed sea-sand."

His hand dropt he. But as a matter of fact, though I am unable to respond to very late Titian, the picture is practically the only item in this gigantic and sumptuous array of masterpieces that I could not write an entire article about, and the first thing I must do, therefore, is to salute, with admiration, amazement, gratitude and reverence, Professor Hale and the team he has led in devising and putting together *The Genius of Venice 1500-1600*, surely the mightiest show to grace the walls of the academy in living memory.

It starts, as well it might, with the Barberi map of Venice, and goes on with Carpaccio's *Lion of St Mark*, ripped from the walls of the Doge's Palace to delight Londoners. Then, after an account of the second Battle of Lepanto (one of the reasons, dear reader, why you and I are not Mohammedans), the visitor turns right, through an archway.

Tintoretto is represented almost as amply as Titian; so is Veronese, on whom I do more than any of the other artists of Venice (would that it had been possible to remove the head wall of Gallery X from the Accademia and bring it here to show us his *Supper at the House of Levi*, all 42 feet of it). Lotto, Moroni, Bassano, Paris Bordone, Palma Vecchio, Pordenone — all these artists are strewn about the Royal Academy until next March, as though the lenders didn't love them, which in the case of the Accademia often seems to be true.

There is no painting by Carpaccio other than the *Lion*, but there are three drawings, and one of them will make every Carpaccio-lover, and indeed every Venetian-lover, howl with the yearning to go at once to the Scuola di S Giorgio degli Schiavoni, for it is a sketch of what became the last picture in the St Jerome series there, little white dog and all.

A vastness of Venice but still not enough

the painting is "of great chromatic intensity".

Retrace your steps. Enter the first gallery you looked across to see the Lotto. It is bulging with Titians; the exhibition includes 20 of his paintings, together with eight drawings. Leave out the *Marsyas*, on which we shall never agree, and come and stand with me before the *Portrait of Ranuccio Farnese*: without moving your feet you can see also his *Portrait of Two Boys* and his *Tarquin and Lucretia* (another late picture, but without the dangerously free draftsmanship that makes me uneasy in the *Marsyas*); no great distance away is his *Portrait of Cristoforo Madruzzo*. These people cry out with the life in them; not Rembrandt himself, born 20 years after Titian died, set the blood pulsing more strongly through his figures, and the virility in Titian is a quality shared by almost all these Venetians.

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We see the work of some of the most confident artists in all history, painting, living and working in a polity that had not yet lost its overweening confidence in its own power, riches and endurance. They

were not the geniuses who adorn the Academy, court painters in any sense; they had to watch their step, of course, and Veronese got into frightful trouble with the inquisition for *Supper at the House of Levi* itself, being accused of blasphemy for the wonderful informality of it all. And an artist painting a great nobleman of the city would not have the warts in even if the sitter had asked him to. But no one can go to *The Genius of Venice* and fail to realize that these men knew their own quality, and thought it no shame to demonstrate what they knew. If you doubt me, go back and take another look at the Lotto *St Christopher*.

The exhibition is vast, but I

would have liked it vaster; I would like to have seen more of the objects — glass, jewelry, furniture of sixteenth century Venice. (There are some fine sculptures, most of them small, which hint at what we are missing.

This is greed on my part, as is my feeling that invisible orchestras should be giving great playing Monteverdi as we go round). What we have is magnificent, for it is a demonstration of a century of art that makes me uneasy in the *Marsyas*; no great distance away is his *Portrait of Cristoforo Madruzzo*. These people cry out with the life in them; not Rembrandt himself, born 20 years after Titian died, set the blood pulsing more strongly through his figures, and the virility in Titian is a quality shared by almost all these Venetians.

Cervantes on his galley sets the sword back in the sheath (*Don John of Austria rides homeward with a wreath*). And he sees across a weary land a straggling road in Spain.

Up which, a lean and foolish knight forever rides in vain. And he smiles, but not as Sultana smile, and settles back the blade...

(But *Don John of Austria rides home from the Crusade*)

Long before the century's close, of course, the seeds of decay had begun to sprout: by the end of the seventeenth century Venice was worn-eaten through and through, and it was an empty shell that Napoleon blew down with a single breath. Let us be thankful that nobody concerned in this exhibition wanted to take it to the middle of the eighteenth century, so that we would have seen Canaletto and Tiepolo fiddling while Venice burned.

We see the work of some of the most confident artists in all history, painting, living and working in a polity that had not yet lost its overweening confidence in its own power, riches and endurance. They

© The New York Times, 1983

The Venice exhibition ends on March 11.

Burn-ups in slow motion

Two hundred years ago the first manned balloon took off from

Paris on its maiden flight (right), carrying with it man's hope of liberation from his earth-bound existence. Richard Holmes looks back to those pioneers of gasbag grandeur and reflects on its jet-age renaissance

Individualism that made them prophets of the scientific age. They had the meticulousness of the technocrat and the mildly deranged romanticism of the poet. Most characteristic of them all, perhaps, was the Swedish engineer Salomon August Andrée, who mounted an expedition to fly across the North Pole in 1897, and was lost in the Arctic wastes.

Andrée's flight diary was miraculously recovered with his body, and those of his two companions years later beneath the ice of White Island, east of Spitsbergen, in 1930. It contains the following entry, made on July 14, 1897, while hanging 99 feet above the northern pack ice: "It is not a little strange to be floating here above the Polar Sea. To be the first that have floated here in a balloon. How soon, I wonder, shall we have to leave?"

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

AGENDA FOR ATHENS

The sometimes superficially absurd manoeuvres of members of the House of Commons who are trying to make a point can often illuminate political reality in a way that nothing else does. So it was this week when nearly a third of the Conservative Party twisted itself into knots in an attempt to give the Prime Minister a little helpful guidance in advance of her journey tomorrow to the European Economic Community's summit at Athens.

The Community is running out of money enough to cover its expenditure, and requires an increase in the contributions it receives from member states which provide it with what are called its "own resources". Britain, which had started from a stance of extreme scepticism about whether such an increase in "own resources" was needed at all, modified its position at the Stuttgart summit in June. Mrs Thatcher is now prepared to "consider" an increase provided, but only provided, that the Community Budget arrangements under which Britain's contribution is unfairly high, are reformed, and the Community's profligate spending on agriculture is brought under control.

There will be some hard bargaining in Athens and as a prelude to it, 121 Tory backbenchers, many of them newcomers to Parliament, were persuaded by that independent-minded backbencher Sir Hugh Fraser, and by other critics of the Common Market who are more wholly committed against it than he is, that it would strengthen Mrs Thatcher's hand if they signed a motion declaring that "own resources" should not be increased. Far from feeling helped, however, the Government was of the opinion that to go to Athens inhibited by such a motion was tantamount to being prevented from negotiating at all.

So the Whips went to work, as Whips do, and 66 of the errant backbenchers obediently withdrew their names from the original motion and signed another, which had the Government's approval. The gist of this was that there should be no increase in "own resources" except on the conditions the Government is making. The irony did not, however, end there since the majority of those who did not withdraw their names from the original motion still voted against the Labour amendment which was couched in the same terms. Only a small band of seven critical Tories stayed with their motion and voted against the Government.

Their small number is not, however, the measure of the significance of these bizarre events. Mrs Thatcher goes to Athens without formal strings but with a clear understanding

THE PLACE OF PAROLE

The Home Secretary has now given to Parliament a fuller statement of his policy of curtailing the privilege of release on licence for prisoners convicted of certain types of murder and the privilege of parole in the case of prisoners given a determinate sentence of more than five years for crimes of violence or drug trafficking.

His decision, first announced at the Conservative party conference, came in response to public concern about the increase in violent crime and the sometimes glaring contrast between the length of sentence served in prison. But he has been criticized in his method for misusing the parole system and even for usurping the function of Parliament, in as much as he is effectively debarring some categories of prisoner from the individual consideration for early parole that the Act makes general.

Neither charge sticks. The element of discretion in the whole business of advising and granting parole is far too great for that kind of objection to find a footing. But there is no doubt that the Home Secretary has introduced a discrepant factor into the procedures for administering parole and release on licence; and that has caused unease at the Parole Board and one resignation.

As introduced in 1968 and as developed since the process of consideration for parole is rooted in the individual, General criteria have been evolved and altered, sometimes at the in-

stance of a Home Secretary in support of other objectives of his penal policy, but they have never been more than principles in the light of which each case is considered on its own merits.

In its very first report the Parole Board noted that in regard to certain especially heinous or dangerously prevalent crimes "it might be thought to be against the public interest to allow parole which, if granted, could be seen as tending to diminish the general deterrent effect of a particular sentence".

That is precisely what the present Home Secretary thinks, in part (the other part being that parole in these cases tends to reduce the penalty below the requirement of retribution). To the mind of the parole board of 1968 however "the type of crime ought not to override all consideration of the offender as an individual.... No category of crime excludes a prisoner altogether from consideration for parole".

It is that doctrine and practice that Mr Brittan has set aside. It is not the individual as such that will in future be considered but the individual as a unit in a class defined by reference to certain broadly defined offences.

The distinction between grave offences and others has been written into the official guidance before - by Mr Roy Jenkins when Home Secretary in 1975. That was in the context of a policy to relieve the overcrowding prisons. Those serving sentences for grave offences would be paroled more sparingly than others. But that was because

it would have been more commendable had you urged them to use their influence to secure the release of political prisoners (such as Benazir Bhutto) from Pakistani jails, and to seek to mitigate the inhuman punishments meted out to the people.

If the generals are allowed to become associated with the Commonwealth then it would be

embarrassing for other members of this organization should a future elected government opt out at a future date.

Yours faithfully,
AHMAD BASHIR,
42 Manor Avenue,
Hounslow,
Middlesex.
November 24.

Pakistan invitation

From Mr Ahmad Bashir

Sir, Your advice (November 22) to the Commonwealth leaders assembled at Delhi to extend an invitation to the military government of Pakistan to rejoin the Commonwealth (which the elected government had previously quitted) is indeed deplorable.

Concern at airline safety record

From the General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union

Sir, For some time now our membership, in the form of cabin crews and indeed all airport workers, have viewed with some concern the fact that there had been a clear relaxation in safety measures as compared with a few years ago because apparently fierce competition is encouraging some airlines to cut corners on safety in an effort to reduce costs.

We have no doubt in our minds that the reason for the UK having such a good record of safety in the aviation industry is due to the fact that the state airline has always maintained very stringent precautions, thus carrying every other British concern along with it.

Surely, if there is going to be action taken within the next year or so to privatize the aviation industry we are going to see shareholders demanding cost-cutting exercises in all fields, with the result that the Civil Aviation Authority may not even be able to control standards at their present level, which even now appear to be deteriorating.

We have seen drastic reductions in staff and we can only repeat our experience, when new management take over existing firms, that cost-cutting exercises, in the form of asset stripping, staff reductions and all other money-saving projects, are introduced.

This issue needs to be fully considered in the form of a public inquiry so that we can properly ascertain whether the public who are served by the industry, those who work in it and, indeed, those who live in the UK, are being properly protected and whether there is, in effect, a need for such an exercise to be carried out purely for political dogma at the expense of what we have written above.

If the Government is adamant that what it is doing is in the public interest, surely it would not object to a public inquiry before it proceeds on such a disastrous course.

Our union would be happy to provide evidence at any hearing to show why this exercise should not be followed through.

Yours faithfully,
MOSS EVANS, General Secretary,
Transport and General Workers'
Union.

Transport House,
Smith Square,
Westminster, SW1.
November 24.

Oxford admissions

From Mr O. P. Taplin

Sir, In the correspondence about the new admissions system here in Oxford the impression might have been given by some letters that there could still be changes in it.

As Chairman of the Management Committee of the Oxford Colleges Admissions Office I should make it clear that this is not so. Colleges collectively took their final decision approving the new scheme on November 3. At the same meeting they also took the decision that these procedures will start in 1985 (for those seeking entry to be admitted to Oxford in October, 1986).

The press and school organizations were given an outline of the new scheme immediately the final decision was taken; and a document setting out the details of the procedures and their implications will be circulated to schools in March.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER TAPLIN, Chairman,
Management Committee,
Oxford Colleges Admissions Office,
University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford.

Disruption of concert

From Miss Deborah Bazalgette

Sir, I was present at the concert given yesterday evening by the USSR Symphony Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall. During the short break between the first and second movements of Prokofiev's Classical Symphony groups of demonstrators, strategically placed around the auditorium, shouted very loudly in defence of Soviet Jewry and had to be removed so that the concert could continue.

Parole came in when there was more confidence than there is today in the reformatory effect of penal regimes. It came in the heading "treatment of offenders", with its medical overtones suggestive of a moral or behavioural disorder capable of responding to an appropriate course of professional treatment. Absence of result and the gross impediments that go with the overcrowded state of the prisons have undermined that faith.

While the faith was strong it was easier to regard parole under supervision as a continuation of custodial treatment by other means, a further stage in the rehabilitation of the prisoner to take his place in society as a free man once again (which is what parole still is in theory); and there was correspondingly less need to be disturbed at the gap between length of sentence handed out by the judge and term served behind bars. With the fading of the treatment concept, and the more popular concepts of deterrence and retribution forcing their way back into official thinking, it is hardly surprising, though hardly satisfactory, that parole has come to be seen as a one-way system for revising the length of sentences downwards, which may be all right for some categories of offenders but is not in the case of others.

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Yours faithfully,
AHMAD BASHIR,
42 Manor Avenue,
Hounslow,
Middlesex.
November 24.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Concern at airline safety record

From Mr Giles Radice, MP for Durham North (Labour)

Sir, Your leading article, "No closed book at the DES" (December 1), was a thoroughly irresponsible and ill-founded attack on the competence and integrity of officials at the Department of Education and Science.

The scandal is not the department's handling of the Cox and Marks report, *Standards in English Schools* (which claims secondary modern, and grammar schools together have better examination results than comprehensive schools) but the blatant political pressure applied in an attempt to override the DES's careful assessment of the report.

In your anxiety to defend Cox and Marks you misrepresent Sir Keith Joseph's recent statement on the NCES (National Council for Educational Standards) report. You find space to quote Sir Keith's welcome for their "pioneering work" but fail to mention the substantial criticisms of the NCES's methodology contained in three of the statement's five paragraphs.

Nor do you mention the letter to the NCES authors from the DES's statistician, Mr Wakefield, published with the Secretary of State's statement.

In this letter Mr Wakefield does not retract the department's criticisms of both the methodology and conclusions of the report. In particular, the department, like all other objective commentators, concludes that the NCES study has failed to take adequate account of the effects of social class. This helps explain why the Cox and Marks study reaches conclusions so much at variance with other studies, such as those by the National Children's Bureau and Edinburgh University.

It is sad to see *The Times* swallowing the Cox and Marks interpretation of events "hook, line,

and sinker". A newspaper genuinely concerned with standards should do its homework before it pronounces on such important issues.

Sirs, etc.

GILES RADICE (Chief Opposition spokesman on education),
House of Commons.
December 1.

From Mrs Freda M. Andrews

Sir, Your leader writer's concern at the quality of secondary school education betrays a fundamental error.

The fact that too many young people leave school without formal qualifications adds nothing to the debate on comprehensive versus grammar/secondary modern, or whatever other system you care to mention.

It tells us a lot, however, about the inappropriateness of the school curriculum in all types of school and the inadequacies of the present examination system for measuring the achievement and abilities of the majority of the 16-year-old population.

Let us all stop bickering about comprehensives versus the rest, which can only be measured "objectively", as you say, by the inappropriate yardstick of O levels.

Let us start thinking instead about what our young people really need from the secondary curriculum. If some people then wish to argue that a more relevant curriculum can only be followed effectively in a grammar or secondary modern school, they would have to convince us that it was an experiment worth trying.

Let us forget for once how many Q levels a person has got and ask instead what that person can really do!

Yours faithfully,
FREDA M. ANDREWS,
43 Lawrence Road,
Ealing, W5.
December 1.

Politics and examination results

and sinker". A newspaper genuinely concerned with standards should do its homework before it pronounces on such important issues.

Sirs, etc.

GILES RADICE (Chief Opposition spokesman on education),
House of Commons.
December 1.

Keeping telecom wires uncrossed

From Mr John Bray

Sir, There is an aspect of the current debate on the privatisation of British Telecom that has hardly been mentioned but which could be of vital importance to present and future users. It is the likelihood that unrestricted privatisation would seriously impair the integrity of the national telecommunication network - that is, the quality and reliability of the service provided.

A multiplicity of overlapping networks provided by a variety of entrepreneurs could well lead to a fragmented and uneconomic network, with divided and therefore less accountable responsibility for quality of service and higher costs to the user.

Modern telecommunications has moved far beyond the telephone: it is the universal provider of a wide range of services. It has resulted, on the world scale, in the most complex, extensive and influential artifact yet created by mankind.

Unrestricted privatisation could lead to a variety of non-optimum and possibly conflicting technical and operational standards within the United Kingdom and a deterioration in the quality of service. Failure to achieve clearly recognized and agreed standards within the national network could also lead to a weakening of the voice of the UK in determining international standards and consequently in our ability to secure overseas markets for telecommunications equipment.

Furthermore, it makes neither engineering nor economic sense to set up overlapping networks in the same geographical area, any more than it would be to establish several independent railway systems between, say, London and Birmingham. Nor does the customer wish to have several different cables entering his premises, or separate bills to pay for various telecommunication services.

It is to be hoped that the Telecommunications Bill now under discussion will fully recognize the need for a national telecommunications authority, i.e., British Telecom, with clearly defined and effective responsibility for the integrity of the national telecommunication network, including its technical and operational standards and quality of service.

Yours sincerely,
W. J. BRAY,
(Former Director of Research, Post Office),
The Pump House,
Bredifield,
Woodbridge,
Suffolk.
November 23.

What Keynes meant

From Professor Z. A. Silberston
Sir, Keynes may have been witty (letter, November 23), but he was not primarily concerned with being witty when he wrote. "In the long run we are all dead." Nor - pace Sir William Rees-Mogg - was he saying that we can be as irresponsible as we like in the short run, since in the long run everything will be forgotten. Just the reverse, in fact.

Keynes used the phrase in *A Tract on Monetary Reform* (p. 65, Royal Economic Society edition, Macmillan) when discussing the quantity theory of money.

The theory might predict well in the long run, he said, but - "this long run is a misleading guide to current affairs. In the long run we are all dead. Economists set themselves too easy, too useless a task if in tempestuous seasons they can only tell us that when the storm is long past the ocean is flat again."

What he was saying was that short-term problems cannot be ignored, even though they may sort themselves out in the long run. It was a serious and important observation, applicable to a wide range of economic and social problems. It was also compassionate, as one would expect of that great man.

Yours sincerely,
Z. A. SILBERSTON,
Secretary-General,
The Royal Economic Society,
Imperial College of Science and
Technology, SW7.
November 24.

Security check

From Commander G. Cobb, RN (ret'd)

Sir, The recent theft of 6,800 bars of gold from a security warehouse reminds me of an occasion in 1940 when, in charge of a file of Royal Marines, I had to meet a bullion train, in the middle of the morning rush hour, at St Enoch station in Glasgow to receive 720 cases of gold bullion for transport across the Atlantic, destined for Fort Knox.

From the rear of several tatty old goods wagons stepped an immaculately dressed official from the Bank of England. "For heaven's sake get these soldiers away," he said petulantly.

"We ain't soldiers", replied the Sergeant indignantly, "we're Royal Marines."

One or two passers-by were amused by this exchange, wondering what was about. Meanwhile I asked the "Anthony Eden" black-hatted official if he required a receipt for so precious a cargo.

"Write on the back of that envelope," he replied. "720 cases received; that will do for Montague Norman." The envelope contained the Top Secret signal with regard to the transaction.

Times have changed, alas.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD COBB,
Stoke Cottage,
Meonstoke,
Southampton,
Hampshire.
November 28.

FAMILY MONEY

Tax avoidance schemes

BES funds doors closing fast

Only six of the 21 Business Expansion Scheme funds launched since June of this year are still open to investors.

And with the pressing requirement to invest the money before the end of the current tax year in order to qualify for tax relief, this is probably the investor's last chance to take advantage of one of the best tax avoidance schemes available.

Individuals subscribing between £2,000 and £40,000 to any of the funds will be investors in a surprise assortment of unquoted companies. The stake money is allowable against your highest marginal tax rates, including the investment income surcharge.

This means, at best, for a 75 per cent taxpayer, tax relief can give an effective discount of 75 per cent. This generous incentive to promote smaller businesses is the Government's acknowledgement that venture capital is risk capital.

Of £20m invested to date in 114 companies by the 11 earlier Start-up Scheme approved funds, £650,000 has been lost in four companies which failed.

Unfortunately, besides the venture risk, there is another

risk inherent in approved funds – this concerns the timing of tax relief. Currently, tax relief is only given for the tax year in which the new shares are issued by the investor companies to the fund manager acting as fund taxpayer.

Consequently, investors with prospectively lower marginal tax rates next year should only invest in funds which will be fully invested by the end of the current tax year.

However, any fund may have difficulty in finding suitable companies, as at least two of the 1981/82 funds which are still not fully invested. Approved funds will continue to give uncertain tax relief unless the Government accepts the merit of amending the legislation to allow tax relief to relate back to the year of subscription to the fund.

Funds may now invest in established unquoted companies as well as in start-up situations. Although start-ups are inherently more risky than investments in established companies, the more successful smaller companies could possibly achieve a tenfold or greater increase in share value after five

years of sustained growth.

Tax relief would effectively increase the rate of this return to twentyfold or more for the 50 per cent taxpayer and to fortyfold or more for the 75 per cent taxpayer.

Apart from tax relief, the most important concern of investors will be the ease of realization of the shares after five years.

This will be easier in the case of well-established companies for the USM or even full market listing. Fund management groups active in over-the-counter (OTC) markets will also be able to trade shares in successful companies which may not be ready for the USM.

OTC markets should be significantly more highly developed (and controlled) in five years' time. Currently, they are generally run on a matched bargains basis with no guarantee of sale. However, Hill Woogar and Ravendale are prepared to act as principals, i.e. to give a jobbing service.

Other methods of realization include purchase of the shares by the company's management (more feasible with small placings), sales to institutional

buyers; sale of the company; forming an investment holding company; and purchase of the shares by the company itself.

But otherwise, as Sabre-lance's David Shaw (ex-County Bank) points out: "One of the most important points an individual should consider is what happens at the end of the five-year period if the shares are not marketable".

Sabre-lance undertakes to manage investments on behalf of investors for up to 10 years to give additional time for company shares to become marketable.

If you wish to invest at a generous tax relief discount in new or expanding established companies and you need the selection, investment spread and management benefits that funds provide, then do not wait to the end of the tax year.

Now is the latest time to invest if tax relief for the current financial year is important to you. With some offshore roll-up fund money already looking for a new home, do not count on every fund remaining open to their closing dates.

John Harrison

Approved business expansion funds open to subscribers in November and December 1983

Fund	Minster Trust	Sabre-lance	County Bank	Hill Woogar	Ravendale	Britannia
Date launched	6.10.1983	17.10.1983	2.11.1983	9.11.1983	10.11.1983	15.11.1983
Closing date (Earlier on full subscription)	9.12.1983	9.12.1983	9.12.1983	16.12.1983	30.12.1983	5.12.1983
Fund: Maximum Minimum	£2m £2m	£1.5m £0.4m	£2.5m £1m	£2m £2m	£1.5m £2m	£2.5m
Minimum subscription (Add initial fee)	£2,000	£2,000	£5,000	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000
Fees to subscribing investors						
Initial fee	4% + Vat	6% + Vat	5% + Vat	7% + Vat	7% + Vat	+5% + Vat on realization
Annual fee	NIL	Up to 1% + Vat	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Charges to companies	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Pricing fee	Yes	Yes	No option (other than with bank loans)	Up to 10% or equity	Up to 15% of equity	None
Fees for other services						
Share option	Up to 20% of funding holding	Up to 15% of ex-fund equity	No option (other than with bank loans)	Up to 10% or equity	Up to 15% of equity	None
Investment range						
Minimum	£100,000 preferred	£30,000	£50,000	£50,000	£250,000	£100,000
Maximum (or 20% of fund)	£800,000	£250,000	£450,000	£400,000	£300,000	£500,000
Investment policy						
Start-up or expansion	Max 20% s-u	c. 20% s-u but 60% of fund may be in companies under 5 years	Mainly established companies	No pure s-u	Balance eg 25/75	New and emerging companies
Projected date for full investment (no guarantee)	April 5, 1984	April 5, 1984	April 5, 1985	April 5, 1985	April 5, 1985	April 5, 1985
Nominated directors on boards	If necessary	Always	If necessary	Usually	Usually	
Aims for realization of investments after five years	USM, etc.	OTC, management buy-outs, USM, etc.	USM, etc.	OTC, USM, etc.	OTC, USM, etc.	

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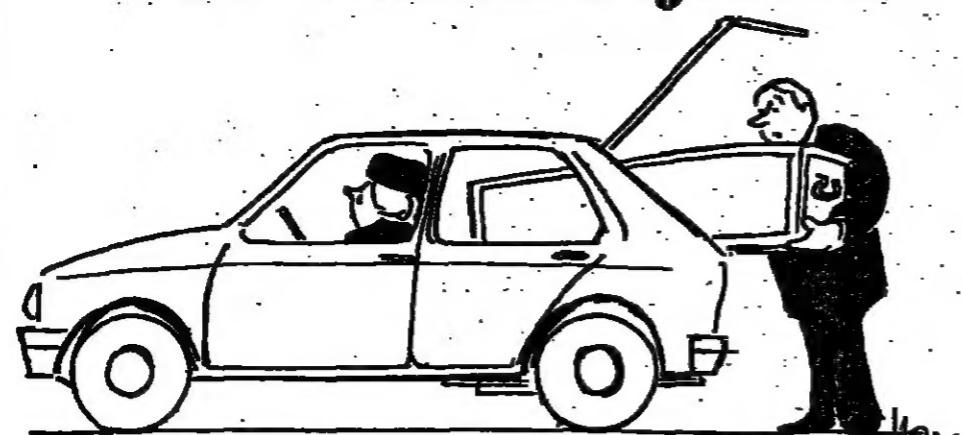
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FAMILY MONEY

Funeral expenses

Cost of dying rises, but DIY burials rejected



'IT'S A GOOD THING WE GOT THE HATCHBACK'

The cost of dying, like everything else, goes up, but this year funeral directors have managed to keep prices below the rate of inflation, according to a survey of funeral expenses.

The average funeral now costs £370, representing a rise of less than 5 per cent on last year in spite of increased cemetery charges, and doctors' and clergy fees. This information is based on a sample survey conducted in eight areas throughout England by the Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society. With the government grant toward death expenses still at only £30, this leaves an average sum of money still to be found.

But have you ever thought of a 'do-it-yourself' or family funeral? This idea is put forward (and I should add, rejected) by the vicar of Enfield, the Rev Bill Bowder, who completed the survey of funeral directors. For such a "DIY" funeral, you would have to buy a coffin which would cost about £30, with linings and handles an extra £5 or £10. The death certificate is usually handed to the nearest relative, but a second certificate is required for cremation.

The hospital authorities would be the next hurdle because some have a rule that they will release bodies only to an undertaker. "However, perseverance should win through red tape," says Mr Bowder.

Cemeteries and crematoria vary in their willingness to entertain the idea of a non-standard funeral. One crematorium in the north of England at first refused to accept a coffin that was not in a hearse, but relented when it was pointed out that

it used a van to remove a body from hospital.

So with the hire charges for a van, doctor's certificates and an average crematorium fee of £50, a non-standard funeral without the help of clergy could add up to £150.

"Would it be worth it?" asked Mr Bowder.

In the face of very real difficulties which would arise with reluctant officials and the possibility of delays and the overwhelming emotional bur-

den it would place on oneself after a death, the answer has got to be - no. It is under such conditions one would realize what sterling yet unsung work the funeral director does for his client."

With this sort of conclusion it is not surprising that the National Association of Funeral Directors broadly approves of the survey. But the association which represents 2,300 undertakers handling 80 per cent of

funerals disputes the average cost.

The association believes that it is more like £350 for an undertaker's fees with another £150 for the extras bringing the total cost of £500. It says the £370 figure which excludes so many extras is "misleading."

The average figure in itself can be misleading as regional variations are so great. Local authorities can charge over £300 to open up a grave for

someone who lives outside the area.

Camden, for instance, which has a policy of preferring local residents, charges £70 for people living in Camden and £210 for people who have moved away and want to return to be buried.

Mr Bowder's survey for the Odd Fellows Society showed that basic funeral costs varied between £105 for a hospital contract in Lowestoft, Suffolk, to £81 for one in Worthing, Sussex. The cheapest funerals on offer from the undertakers in 14 areas, excluding the hospital contracts, ranged from £150 in Leeds to £350 in Worthing.

A number of undertakers, concerned about the huge variations across the country are pressing for a standardization of the fees charged by local authorities for cemetery and graveyard services.

But a funeral director in Market Harborough, Leicestershire, says that there can never be a standard price for a funeral. His company operates from a three-storey Georgian building set in ornamental gardens and cannot compete in prices with the high street shop.

"Our nearest crematorium is a round trip of 25 miles," he said. "Our clients, whatever their financial situation, are more concerned with value for money than with a cheap funeral."

An Oadie, Yorkshire, undertaker, whose funeral costs average £400 to £600, said: "We care too much about our calling to do a 'cheap' funeral."

And a Norwich, Norfolk, undertaker said that people should be educated about the costs of funerals and encouraged to take out insurance to cover them. "People think

nothing of spending £1,000 on holidays abroad. They want a high standard of life but they do not want to pay for a high standard of death."

Undertakers' fees are modest, he added, compared with vicars charging £16.50 an hour plus travelling expenses and doctors spending 20 minutes on a death certificate for which they are paid £32 plus travel.

The Odd Fellows who commissioned the survey offer whole life insurance policies which pay out when you die.

IT'S A GOOD THING WE GOT THE HATCHBACK



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Vivien Goldsmith

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BOXING: BRITISH LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

Board's policy means that viewers must miss a classic

By Srikumar Sen,
Boxing Correspondent

It is a pity that the British Boxing Board of Control's policy of limiting promoters to four days a year when they can arrange for bouts to be televised on the day they take place will prevent the British lightweight championship from being shown on ITV screens this afternoon.

The viewers will be missing the best of British boxing and skill when George Feeney of Harlesden defends his title against Ton Willis of Liverpool at the Regent Crest Hotel, Marylebone, London.

The two men, though virtually unknown to the general public, are boxers of the highest standing in Britain and their contrasting styles would make exciting watching. Feeney, the boxer, has the perfect temperament to weather the assaults of Willis, the boxer-fighter.

The champion is never rattled even when the punches are landing on his nose, a part of his face which has an aversion to being pushed around. Feeney has been beaten twice by the hard men of the 1980 Olympics to win a bronze medal. He could well be able to fight a route round Feeney's jabs sooner or later.

The upright champion stands on his going the distance (only Andeh has stopped him, in Lagos) and it was because to the 14 punishing rounds that Feeney had to go through to stop Ray Cattouze that the board decided to cut the championship distance down from



Willis: lively challenger

rattled when things are not going his way, though usually his uncompromising attitude has always prevailed.

Willis has won all his 13 bouts, the last six inside the distance. A double ABA light welterweight champion, he found his way past Mr Clarke during this. The universities and amateur competition will be held at Moulton Park, Northampton University today. There are 50 entries and Galway have the strongest team, and should lift the Harry Preston Trophy.

Sandhurst have received their interest in the event after nearly 55 years and have put in six. Although there should be some good boxing in the lighter weights, heavyweights promise the best action.

Willis too, has a good temperament but he is not quite so phlegmatic as Feeney. He can get

15 to 12 rounds. But Willis could prove a little too lively and his greater variety of punches could make him the first home boxer to stop Feeney.

In fact of the fact that ITV's programme flexibility is restricted by commercial considerations and also because they pay 50 per cent more for same-day showings than delayed screenings, the board might have stopped their television policy.

A few days ago, Ray Clarke, the secretary of the board, told me that one way out of this impasse was for Frank Warren, a promoter who has worked with ITV, to put on shows at different times under the names of different licensees. Warren was prepared to do this, but when the technical committee of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) meet in January to select the 12 teams for Los Angeles.

The British team does not have a complete schedule of matches, knowing only that their first game is against Pakistan on Dec 11. "It is difficult," said yesterday, "to plan and strategy without knowing specifically the order in which our fixtures appear."

"We have prepared the British team as well as we have been able to, and were permitted to do by the respective constituent associations." This last remark refers to the question of the availability of players and was had about four months in which to prepare a force for the 1984 Berlin Olympics.

Self has implicit faith in his squad of 16, which contains only one player from Scotland, two from Northern Ireland, and 13 from England. No players were several years.

"I refuse to accept that we are ill-prepared. We have many experienced international players in the squad, and our only minor problem is to build up a unity of purpose, team spirit, and confidence in our ability."

Self coached Southgate to three successive triumphs in the European Club championship from 1976 to 1978, and in the same capacity helped Wales to achieve their only three victories over England, the most recent at Penrith in 1979.

After the British team had missed the bus for the 1976 Games in Montreal, having lost a three-match play off to Belgium in Amsterdam, the Great Britain Hockey Board appointed Self to prepare a team for the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow.

The results he achieved were good enough for the British team to earn selection, but both the players and management alike were frustrated when the Board withdrew the team from Moscow because of of Afghanistan.

The appearance of Steve Ovett, against Roger Hackney, Steve Jones, Steve Harris, Mike Gratten, Barry Smith, and Dave Bedford in the Rank Xerox 100m race at the Bartschka Cup tomorrow is the principal domestic fixture of the club. And they have threatened strong action if the committee ignore their wishes.

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Albion to provide good test of Arsenal attitude

By Peter Bell

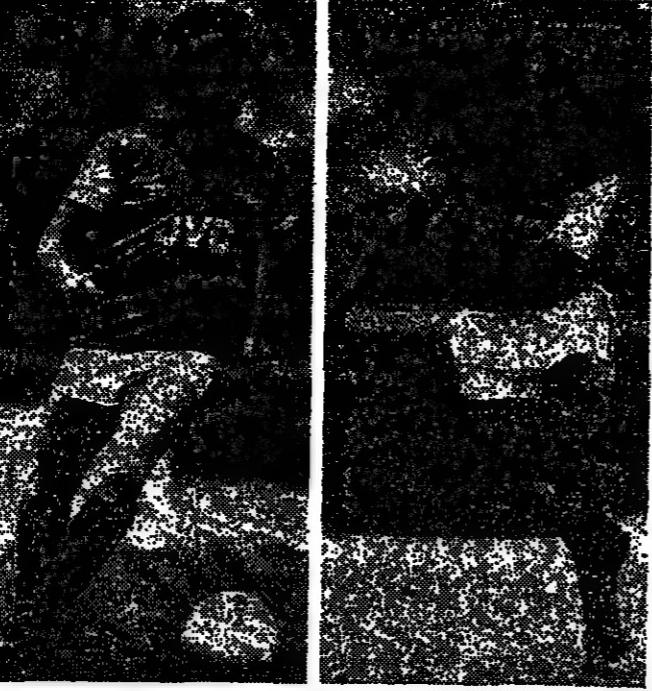
It has become increasingly evident that the cult of the manager is being superseded by the cult of the chairman. Yesterday it was a step further with Arsenal's chairman Peter Hill-Wood giving his players their first taste of the axe.

This afternoon, Arsenal supporters (and other interested chairman) will be able to judge the efficacy of the chairman's ability as a motivator when the team attempt to pick themselves up from their humiliating 3-1 Walcott Cup and West Bromwich Albion at Highbury.

Mr Hill-Wood obviously took to his task as to the manner born. "I tried to impress on everyone that we must be fiercely competitive to survive at this level," he said afterwards. His confidence in his ability to match the Cloughs and Adams' record is reflected in his added words: "I think the players will respond with 110 per cent tomorrow and hopefully earn three points."

But although Mr Hill-Wood warned that "No-one's job here is entirely secure, nobody has a divine right to be employed by Arsenal and one is questioning everyone for the moment at least," Terry Neill remained the managerial function of selecting the team. Unsurprisingly that shows three changes, Neill remarking that had it not been for the injuries to Rio, O'Leary and Talbot, "there might have been others. The players I have left out are missing because they do not deserve to be in. One or two others can count themselves lucky to have a chance."

As it is, Sunderland and Whyte bear the brunt of the responsibility for Tuesday's Milk Cup defeat. Caution, Arsenal's new signing, comes in for his first game in these inauspicious circumstances and will be partnered at centre-half by the 17-year-old Tony Adams, while David Merson, midfield player signed on a free transfer from Southampton during the summer, replaces Sunderland. Norwich always provide a good ten



Sunderland (left) and Whyte bearing the brunt of responsibility for Arsenal's Milk Cup defeat.

for the aspiration of leading teams, and if Tottenham emerge from this match with their run intact they will have reason to believe they can seriously challenge the leading group.

Even if Tottenham win, they are unlikely to make inroads on Liverpool's lead however, as the champions have a home game with a depleted Boro side to look forward to.

Responding to suggestions by Luton's chairman Denis Mortimer that the club might sell players like Walsh and Elliot to balance the books in the face of a threatened supporters' boycott, Neill was firm. "No player will leave unless I think it is for the good of the club and if that situation were to happen, it would be time for me to look at my own position."

Unlike at Highbury, Luton supporters can be expected to show their full support for the manager at today's attractive match against Coventry City. Pleasant selecting an unchanged team, Coventry are without Grimes, the most expensive of their summer signings, space, Flanagan replacing him.

Compared to the traumas at Highbury the other London first division clubs could feel very satisfied. Tottenham Hotspur, who are

now embarrased at their Milk Cup exit eclipsed by the subsequent fall of their neighbours, are unchanged for the difficult trip to Norwich City, where they attempt to continue their unbroken record of 10 matches. At Carrow Road Norwich always provide a good ten

SNOOKER

Davis leads as White struggles to survive

By Sydney Friskin

Steve Davis, a model of consistency, led his more erratic opponent, Jimmy White, by five frames to three at the halfway stage of their semi-final match in the United Kingdom championship sponsored by Coral's at the Guildhall, Portsmouth.

The eight frames of the afternoon were completed in three hours, including a 15-minute interval.

There were times when Davis, the world champion, looked so superior, that he seemed likely to establish a more substantial lead. Davis' judgment was sound and his action superb, but although White was in some desperate situations, he managed to regain some ground by winning an absorbing eight frame.

Last season Waspis led in seventh place in the London merit table. This season they lead any table you care to mention with an unbeaten record, which Rosslyn Park, second placed club in London last April, will take great delight in trying to knock over. Given that the unfortunate Melville was still missing with fresh investigations to be made to the knee which had a cartilage operation earlier this year, Waspis field possibly their strongest side.

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The third frame was a crossing,

with Davis making a fine break of 59 and White taking a break of 39 and clearing the frame on the scores, and win the frame on the break.

Park may struggle in the tight but

RUGBY UNION: THREE INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

Rosslyn Park aiming to deprive powerful Wasps of record

By David Hands

Rugby Correspondent

The two B internationals to be played at Melrose and Rosslyn Park today leave the English club programme largely unaffected, though London Scottish, who take a weakened side to Bath, may not agree. This is a matter for some rejoicing, for all too often the country's leading clubs find themselves meeting each other with diluted sides.

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Failing to capitalise on a mistake by Davis midway through the fourth frame, White missed a simple red at the top of the table. Davis came in for another profitable manoeuvre, coolly wrapping up the frame. Davis soon extended his lead to 41, with strokes of green and even, making a break of 39 and forcing White to concede with the red left.

White was in another spot of trouble in the next frame, but did manage to pull himself together for a break of 46, eventually reducing the lead to 4-2 in a tight finish.

In the next frame, Davis piled on 66 points before White had potted a half. After a couple of fine breaks, White ended a break of 36 in the eighth frame by potting a red and screwing the cue ball back into a side pocket, but White in the end held the colour up to the pink.

Alex Higgins, overjoyed on

Thursday night after his 3-1 victory

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Bright Oassis to end drought over right trip

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Bright Oassis can give Kim Bailey, his young trainer, the biggest success of his training career at Sandown Park today by winning the valuable Mecca Bookmakers Handicap Hurdle.

At Newbury eight days ago Bright Oassis looked all over the winner of another handicap when he took up the running halfway up the straight. In the end two and half miles proved beyond him and he could barely raise a gallop in the last furlong.

Afterwards Bailey told me that he would saddle Bright Oassis again today if he came out of that race well and that he was convinced that the combination of blinkers and Sandown's stiff two miles could easily be the answer. Bright Oassis won blinkers two years ago when he enjoyed such a good season winning at Liverpool, Devon, Wincanton and Hereford and Bailey is adamant that this equipment is a key to success. He did not put them on Bright Oassis at Cheltenham last month when the horse finished first and second at Ayr in October and they have been handicapped strictly on their performances since then. Boardmans Crown and my selection have also been assessed according to what they ran at Cheltenham last month. Now I am banking on blinkers enabling Bright Oassis to reverse the placings.

Cardinal Flower and Numerate, the two raiders from the north, finished first and second at Ayr in October and they have been handicapped strictly on their performances since then. Boardmans Crown and my selection have also been assessed according to what they ran at Cheltenham last month. Now I am banking on blinkers enabling Bright Oassis to reverse the placings.

With Statesmanship, Absaroke, Paris North and Princess Henham all standing their ground, the Mecca Bookmakers Three-Year-Old Championship has lived up to its billing. Well though Statesmanship and Paris North won their last races at Ascot and Newbury, I liked the way that Absaroke hurdled at Kempton and he is preferred in this instance.

Desert Hero, the winner of the Imperial Cup at Sandown in the spring, might have made a successful transition from hurdling to steeplechasing had he not misjudged the second last fence at Warwick last month and paid for it. He has a chance to atone in the Henry VIII Novices' Steeplechase, but with David Nicholson's young jumpers in almost invincible form, it could pay to go for Captain Dynamo instead.

At Sandown yesterday Nicholson and his jockey, Peter Scudamore, continued their triumphant march when Broadheath won the Courage Cup carrying the colours of Michael Marsh, whose greatest moment in racing came when Larbaw won the Whitbread Gold Cup at Cheltenham and a win over

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I will want to be on Desert

OSSID, yesterday when he reverts to two miles, because he is so quick and such a good jumper.

Catch Phrase looks every inch a steeplechaser in the making.

Desert Orchid tried to lead from start to finish in the December Novices' Hurdle as it was won. But doing that over two miles is one thing, over two miles and five furlongs around a course as stiff as Sandown is another matter and as his stamina gave out, he was caught and passed in the last 50 yards by Catch Phrase.

However, stable opinion is adamant that Silver Buck has recovered from the various ailments which plagued him. It is also thought that his recent victories over most opposition at Folkestone and Market Rasen have availed the 11-year-old from his usual indecision.

Observe could well be the joker in Fred Winter's pack of top-class chasers as the seven-times champion trainer attempts to regain his crown, from Dickinson. This improving young horse went from strength-to-strength last season when his five victories from seven starts included a defeat of Wayward Lad in the Kennedy Construction Gold Cup at Cheltenham and a win over

Desert Orchid at Sandown in March.

The first race, costing £12,000 will be completed by the Epsom spring meeting. Over two or three years, plastic rails will replace existing ones round the entire course," Mr Nelligen revealed that aluminium rails had been tried at Epsom, but they had been stolen.

Ron Atkins, the jockeys safety officer, commented: "This will be a great improvement in preventing injuries. These rails and uprights are plastic and everything collapses if they are hit. They've been used in France for 12 years."

Sandown Park

Going: firm.

Total: Double 2.0, 3.0, Trabie 1.30, 2.30, 3.30

[Television (TV) 1.30, 2.0 and 2.30 races]

1.0 HENRY VIII CHASE (novices: 23.064; 2m 18yd) (6 runners)

101 2001-18 CAPTAIN DYNAMO (H) Polden 7-11-2 S. Smith Eccles

103 112205 JOHN TARCHIN (P) Ledger 10-11-3 M. Newland

104 042229 BRAHMS AND LIEBT (P) Parfitt 7-10-10 G. Newland

105 112002 BRAVE HUNTER (P) John Gofford 7-10-10 R. Moore

106 112003 CHARLEY FISHER (P) S. Bradstock 8-10-10 K. McNeely

112 112047 LE CHAMP TALET (Miles R. Morris) J Fox 7-10-10 C. Brown

116 112007 TURBO GULF (P) Brown 8-10-10 P. Nichols

8-11 Captain Dynamo, 8-4 Desert Orchid, 5 Brave Hunter, 10 Johnny Tarcin, 20 others.

1.30 TINGLE CREEK CHASE (handicap: £3,655; 2m 18yd) (5)

201 2004-25 CLASSIFIED (P) Fletcher N. Edwards 7-11-10 S. Smith Eccles

202 112004 DONGAL PRIDE (C) (J) McCollum P. Mulvey 7-11-5 G. McCourt

203 112004-11 DESTROYER SHOT (R) Richmond 7-11-10 P. Scudamore

207 112019 WALMUT WONDER (R) Hickman 8-10-5 P. Nichols

210 112004-21 CHAMPION CHANCE (Miles F. Morris) F. Small 8-10-10 P. Nichols

4-6 Walnut Wonder, 7-2 Restless Shot, Classified, 25 Current Chances.

FORMS Classified (11-9) 5m over 151, to King Or Country (ne 140), 12 run, Liverpool, 2m 4f 18yds, soft, Avg 7. 7m, 10. 11m, 12. 13m, 14. 15m, 16. 17m, 18. 19m, 20. 21m, 22. 23m, 24. 25m, 26. 27m, 28. 29m, 29. 30m, 30. 31m, 31. 32m, 32. 33m, 33. 34m, 34. 35m, 35. 36m, 36. 37m, 37. 38m, 38. 39m, 39. 40m, 40. 41m, 41. 42m, 42. 43m, 43. 44m, 44. 45m, 45. 46m, 46. 47m, 47. 48m, 48. 49m, 49. 50m, 50. 51m, 51. 52m, 52. 53m, 53. 54m, 54. 55m, 55. 56m, 56. 57m, 57. 58m, 58. 59m, 59. 60m, 60. 61m, 61. 62m, 62. 63m, 63. 64m, 64. 65m, 65. 66m, 66. 67m, 67. 68m, 68. 69m, 69. 70m, 70. 71m, 71. 72m, 72. 73m, 73. 74m, 74. 75m, 75. 76m, 76. 77m, 77. 78m, 78. 79m, 79. 80m, 80. 81m, 81. 82m, 82. 83m, 83. 84m, 84. 85m, 85. 86m, 86. 87m, 87. 88m, 88. 89m, 89. 90m, 90. 91m, 91. 92m, 92. 93m, 93. 94m, 94. 95m, 95. 96m, 96. 97m, 97. 98m, 98. 99m, 99. 100m, 100. 101m, 101. 102m, 102. 103m, 103. 104m, 104. 105m, 105. 106m, 106. 107m, 107. 108m, 108. 109m, 109. 110m, 110. 111m, 111. 112m, 112. 113m, 113. 114m, 114. 115m, 115. 116m, 116. 117m, 117. 118m, 118. 119m, 119. 120m, 120. 121m, 121. 122m, 122. 123m, 123. 124m, 124. 125m, 125. 126m, 126. 127m, 127. 128m, 128. 129m, 129. 130m, 130. 131m, 131. 132m, 132. 133m, 133. 134m, 134. 135m, 135. 136m, 136. 137m, 137. 138m, 138. 139m, 139. 140m, 140. 141m, 141. 142m, 142. 143m, 143. 144m, 144. 145m, 145. 146m, 146. 147m, 147. 148m, 148. 149m, 149. 150m, 150. 151m, 151. 152m, 152. 153m, 153. 154m, 154. 155m, 155. 156m, 156. 157m, 157. 158m, 158. 159m, 159. 160m, 160. 161m, 161. 162m, 162. 163m, 163. 164m, 164. 165m, 165. 166m, 166. 167m, 167. 168m, 168. 169m, 169. 170m, 170. 171m, 171. 172m, 172. 173m, 173. 174m, 174. 175m, 175. 176m, 176. 177m, 177. 178m, 178. 179m, 179. 180m, 180. 181m, 181. 182m, 182. 183m, 183. 184m, 184. 185m, 185. 186m, 186. 187m, 187. 188m, 188. 189m, 189. 190m, 190. 191m, 191. 192m, 192. 193m, 193. 194m, 194. 195m, 195. 196m, 196. 197m, 197. 198m, 198. 199m, 199. 200m, 200. 201m, 201. 202m, 202. 203m, 203. 204m, 204. 205m, 205. 206m, 206. 207m, 207. 208m, 208. 209m, 209. 210m, 210. 211m, 211. 212m, 212. 213m, 213. 214m, 214. 215m, 215. 216m, 216. 217m, 217. 218m, 218. 219m, 219. 220m, 220. 221m, 221. 222m, 222. 223m, 223. 224m, 224. 225m, 225. 226m, 226. 227m, 227. 228m, 228. 229m, 229. 230m, 230. 231m, 231. 232m, 232. 233m, 233. 234m, 234. 235m, 235. 236m, 236. 237m, 237. 238m, 238. 239m, 239. 240m, 240. 241m, 241. 242m, 242. 243m, 243. 244m, 244. 245m, 245. 246m, 246. 247m, 247. 248m, 248. 249m, 249. 250m, 250. 251m, 251. 252m, 252. 253m, 253. 254m, 254. 255m, 255. 256m, 256. 257m, 257. 258m, 258. 259m, 259. 260m, 260. 261m, 261. 262m, 262. 263m, 263. 264m, 264. 265m, 265. 266m, 266. 267m, 267. 268m, 268. 269m, 269. 270m, 270. 271m, 271. 272m, 272. 273m, 273. 274m, 274. 275m, 275. 276m, 276. 277m, 277. 278m, 278. 279m, 279. 280m, 280. 281m, 281. 282m, 282. 283m, 283. 284m, 284. 285m, 285. 286m, 286. 287m, 287. 288m, 288. 289m, 289. 290m, 290. 291m, 291. 292m, 292. 293m, 293. 294m, 294. 295m, 295. 296m, 296. 297m, 297. 298m, 298. 299m, 299. 300m, 300. 301m, 301. 302m, 302. 303m, 303. 304m, 304. 305m, 305. 306m, 306. 307m, 307. 308m, 308. 309m, 309. 310m, 310. 311m, 311. 312m, 312. 313m, 313. 314m, 314. 315m, 315. 316m, 316. 317m, 317. 318m, 318. 319m, 319. 320m, 320. 321m, 321. 322m, 322. 323m, 323. 324m, 324. 325m, 325. 326m, 326. 327m, 327. 328m, 328. 329m, 329. 330m, 330. 331m, 331. 332m, 332. 333m, 333. 334m, 334. 335m, 335. 336m, 336. 337m, 337. 338m, 338. 339m, 339. 340m, 340. 341m, 341. 342m, 342. 343m, 343. 344m, 344. 345m, 345. 346m, 346. 347m, 347. 348m, 348. 349m, 349. 350m, 350. 351m, 351. 352m, 352. 353m, 353. 354m, 354. 355m, 355. 356m, 356. 357m, 357. 358m, 358. 359m, 359. 360m, 360. 361m, 361. 362m, 362. 363m, 363. 364m, 364. 365m, 365. 366m, 366. 367m, 367. 368m, 368. 369m, 369. 370m, 370. 371m, 371. 372m, 372. 373m, 373. 374m, 374. 375m, 375. 376m, 376. 377m, 377. 378m, 378. 379m, 379. 380m, 380. 381m, 381. 382m, 382. 383m, 383. 384m, 384. 385m, 385. 386m, 386. 387m, 387. 388m, 388. 389m, 389. 390m, 390. 391m, 391. 392m, 392. 393m, 393. 394m, 394. 395m, 395. 396m, 396. 397m, 397. 398m, 398. 399m, 399. 400m, 400. 401m, 401. 402m, 402. 403m, 403. 404m, 404. 405m, 405. 406m, 406. 407m, 407. 408m, 408. 409m, 409. 410m, 410. 411m, 411. 412m, 412. 413m, 413. 414m, 414. 415m, 415. 416m, 416. 417m, 417. 418m, 418. 419m, 419. 420m, 420. 421m, 421. 422m, 422. 423m, 423. 424m, 424. 425m, 425. 426m, 426. 427m, 427. 428m, 428. 429m, 429. 430m, 430. 431m, 431. 432m, 432. 433m, 433. 434m, 434. 435m, 435. 436m, 436. 437m, 437. 438m, 438. 439m, 439. 440m, 440. 441m, 441. 442m, 442. 443m, 443. 444m, 444. 445m, 445. 446m, 446. 447m, 447. 448m, 448. 449m, 449. 450m, 450. 451m, 451. 452m, 452. 453m, 453. 454m, 454. 455m, 455. 456m, 456. 457m, 4

Britain hopeful of Athens summit

By Patricia Clough

The Government sees the chance of a breakthrough at the Athens EEC summit, thanks to France's new proposals to control the growth in community spending. Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said yesterday.

While Eurocrats in Brussels were expressing doubts that if anything, the Community's huge budget and agriculture crisis, Mr Rifkind told *The Times*: "There is no reason for pessimism."

There had been "substantial convergence" in the 10 members' views since the last summit in Stuttgart in June, he said in an interview. The new proposals, in which France envisaged for the first time restrictions on farm spending, was a "potential major breakthrough".

"Now France, West Germany, Britain and the Netherlands are speaking with a very similar voice," he said. This meant that there was a broad base on which to work for effective reforms.

Controls on agricultural spending, one of Mrs Thatcher's essential conditions for any increase in the Community's own income, would have consequences for farmers, he said. But the government would oppose any measures that discriminated against British farmers, who are more efficient than most of their continental colleagues.

In particular, it would combat any attempt to penalise intensive milk production.

The European Parliament's threat to freeze Britain's 1983 budget rebate or reject the whole EEC budget if the summit did not agree on budgetary reform would have no effect on the Athens meetings, he said.

The Government "shares the concern" of the seven Tory backbenchers who voted with Labour to oppose any increase in the EEC's own financial resources.

No cash, no deal, page 5
Leading article, page 7

One of the New Year's more unusual calendars has been produced by Mr Stephen Whitley the Falklands Island's veterinary officer, whose photographs of views, landmarks and wildlife were taken on his continual travels around the islands. (Sandra Hempel writes).

The British public, however, will not get the chance to buy it for, although it is being printed in London, all 5,000 copies are going to the Falklands.

January (right) shows a group of Rockhopper penguins, the smallest of the five species which breed in the Falklands. A protected bird, it is very noisy and quarrelsome.

February (below right) has a picture of St Mary's Church, Ross Road, Port Stanley, built in 1839. Ross Road is named after the British explorer and navigator Captain Ross, who visited the islands with the British Antarctic expedition in 1842. Captain Ross favoured the move of the capital from its original site at Port Louis to the better harbour at Port William with its inner harbour, Port Stanley.

Shown below is Mr Whitley with his wife, Susan, a schoolteacher, who was killed by an artillery shell in the last days of the fighting around Port Stanley.

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No cash, no deal, page 5
Leading article, page 7

Falklands calendar tours around the islands



Tighter checks on honours candidates

Continued from page 1
He will use data to be published on Tuesday by the trades union-funded Labour Research Department which juxtaposes industrialists honoured for non-political services by Mrs Thatcher since 1979 with the financial contributions their companies have made to the Conservative Party.

Shortly after becoming Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher told the Commons she was restoring the practice of awarding honours for political services. She undertook to forward to the scrutiny committee any names she added personally to the honours list at CBE rank or above.

It is impossible to tell, however, from reading a routine honours list which names were recommended by the Prime Minister personally unless it specifies that the award was for political services and the person honoured was a supporter of the Conservatives.

The bulk of New Year and Birthday honours lists are compiled on the basis of recommendations processed by the Whitehall machine, rather than arising from a political initiative, and do not always pass through the scrutiny committee's hands. But resignation honours nominated by outgoing Prime Ministers are examined by the Privy Councilors.

The committee's powers, stated most recently in a 1979 Order in Council, enable Lord Shackleton, Lord Franks and Lord Carr to report to the Prime Minister if "the past history or general character of a person rendered him unsuitable to be recommended."

"In the event of the committee reporting against any name and the Prime Minister determining still to recommend such a name, a copy of the report of the committee will be submitted to Her Majesty with the recommendation."

In pursuing their inquiries, the Privy Councilors can obtain access to information contained in police files and Security Service material, in addition to routine information held on individuals by Whitehall departments.

Today's events

New exhibitions

The Macrairia Collection - the first exhibition of the Macrairia collection of 19th century Art, The Macrairia Art Gallery, Rosemeade Park, Ayr, Mon to Sat 11 to 5, closed Sun (until Jan 28).

Face to Face portrait exhibition at the Cooper Gallery Church Street, Bury, South York; Tues 1 to 5-30, Wed to Sun to 5.30 closed Mon (until Feb 5).

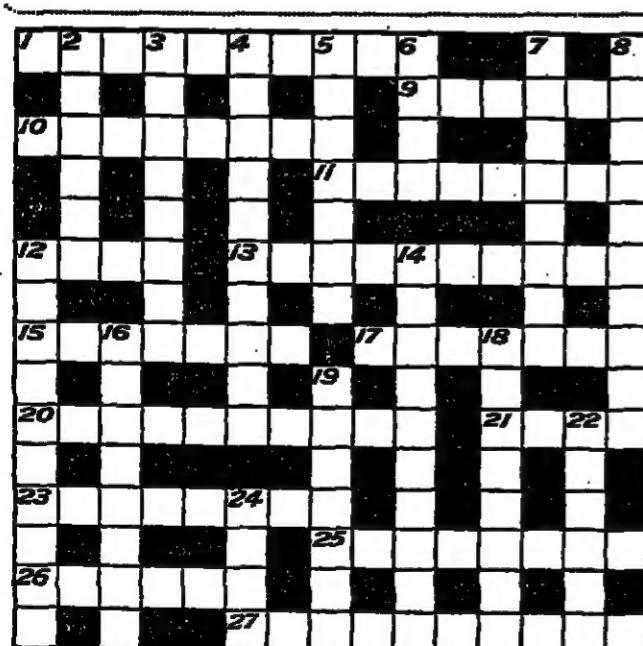
A Woman's Life Ethel Mairi,

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,300

A prize of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to *The Times*, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC9 9YT. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name

Address



ACROSS

- Game player? Nonsense! (10).
- Former tragic killer in the West Country (6).
- Sure it's connected with current arrangements? (8).
- Wood-workers call it a rest centre (8).
- Girly some deemed naive? (4).
- Queen trains Elion form to read novelist (4,6).
- Haughtiness of Benedick's lady? (7).
- ARP members left in sympathy (7).
- Food reserve for wartime consumer (6,4).
- Started to open a drink (4).
- It made an unusual decorated fabric (8).
- Herb and Jack continue to indulge in horseplay (8).
- Ingenious type rarely bar (6).
- TV programme to control opinion (6-4).
- Jack and Dora wrong? Jack might be (6).
- Scottish literary school is cultured? (8).
- A £1 note given to people causes entanglement (10).

5 Encounter needs some minutes (7).

6 Mean quarters given to rising artist (4).

7 New NCO got an unusual percentage (8).

8 A digger of 49, perhaps? (10).

12 Finished article with tip for pipe-maker (3-7).

14 Unprintable parts of Hamlet? (5).

16 Glutted with state aid, possibly (8).

18 Spectre of power being given up to worker, as many view it? (7).

19 Kind of fungi - nothing subtle in this anagram! (7).

22 March with poster to unite under (6).

24 Not a jolly type? (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,299

ACROSS

1 AAD RAAIAK

2 AARH VANTALUS

3 GOMMHT

4 HARNODD HAMLINE

5 KETRONOM BULTH

6 TIRI CO RAY

7 HARRIA BRINAGAE

8 HUNBLER SBLER

9 HUNBLER LAR

10 HUNBLER HANLISTED

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Saturday

BBC 1

1.35 *Ingenious*: Private Eye cartoon from the US; 6.00 *Saturday Super Store*: Today's guests include Bucks Fizz, B.A. Robinson (offering a special 'bestbit'), and the fast-rising comedian Michael Barrymore. Also, a new competition to design a Christmas card; 12.15 *Weather*.

1.45 *Grandstand*: The line-up is: Football Focus (12.20); Swimming (12.45, 3.00) from Leeds; The Arena, Sprint, and The Cadbury's Dairy Milk Club Championship: Racing from Cheltenham (12.55, 1.25, 1.55); 1.00 *The Phil Come*: Novices' Hurdle Race, 1.30 *The Daily Mirror Conditionals Jockeys' Championship*; Snooker (12.45, 2.00); 2.00 *The Saturday Show*: Boxing (1.10, 1.40) from Reno, Nevada; USA v Britain and the Commonwealth; Snooker (2.10, 3.20, 3.50) Opening frames of the final of The Coral United Kingdom Championship from Preston; Cycle-Cross (2.45)-The Halfords Nations Cup from Wokingham; Skiing (4.20) A profile of downhill skiing champion Franz Klammer; Final Stages (4.40). There is a news bulletin at 4.20.

.06 *News*, And weather forecast.

5.15 *Sports round-up*.

20 *Some Motors Do've 'em*: Another chance to see Michael Crichton as the accident-prone Frank Spencer (r).

50 *The Noel Edmonds Late Late Broadcast Show*: Tonight's guests include John and Paul Howard. Plus more Golden Egg awards, and the Give-a-Hot spot.

35 *Blankety Blank*: Last in the present series of word games. The guests: Lorraine Chase, Kenyon Everett; Noel Gordon, Patrick Moore, Cleo Laine and Paul Shand. With Terry Wogan.

40 *Juliet Bravo*: An armed bank-robbing brings Kate Langton (Anita Carter) into conflict with Del Boyflop loopy Perrin, the new divisional GPO chief.

50 *The Paul Daniels Show*: The guests include Rowland Emett, the British inventor of eccentric machines; the musical comedian Alfredo; and the trick cyclists The Klementas, from Austria.

6.40 *Bergerac*: Start of a new series starring John Nettles as the Jersey detective. Tonight, he goes to the "bistro", after failing to get the outright conviction of a suspected arsonist. Anthony Steed is one of tonight's guest players.

8.35 *Newspaper round-up*.

9.30 *Championship Snooker*: Highlights of frames 8 to 15 in the final of the Coral UK Championship, from the Guild Hall, Preston.

9.45 *Match of the Day*: Highlights from First and Second Division matches. And November Goal of the Month competition.

10.05 *Carrot's Club*: Late-night comedy, with Jasper Carrott.

11.25 *Championship Snooker*: Further coverage from frames 8 to 15 in the Coral UK Championship final.

12.45 *Weather for Sunday*.

TV-am

5.25 *Good Morning Britain*: with the Parkinsons (Michael and Mary), News at 7.00 and 8.00; sport (7.10); Pick of the Week (6.30); Jimmy Tarbuck and Jackie Stewart (7.18); Randy Edelman (8.00); Jackie Genova and her aerobics (8.20).

8.30 *Rat Rapping*: with Roland.

8.40 *Data Run*: British heavyweight boxer Frank Bruno is the guest. The musical guests are Eurythmics, Caro One etc.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 *LWT Information*: what's on locally; 9.30 *Pick Up Your Feet*: Double Dutch jump rope championship, from New York; 10.00 *Champion Children of 1983*: Princess Margaret presents the awards at London's Savoy Hotel; 10.30 *The Saturday Show*: Guests include actor John Hurt and jockey Bob Champion.

12.15 *World of Sport*: The line-up is: 12.20 *Indoor Speedway* (Lada International, from Wembley Arena); 12.35 *Stirling World Cup* preview; 12.45 *Swimmers*; 12.50 *On the Ball*: *Football* (Japan vs. France); 1.00 *Racing* (Japan vs. Tokyo); 1.25 *The ITV Six*: from Newcastle; 1.30 *2.00 and 2.30*; And, from Newcastle, the 1.45, 2.15 and 2.45.

3.00 *Boxing*: Feeney versus Willis in the British Lightweight Championship; 3.45 *Half-time football results*; 4.00 *Wrestling*: Team tournament - Giant Haystacks' Wrecking Crew v Big Daddy's All Stars; 4.45 *Results*.

5.00 *News*; 5.05 *Chips*: Audacious thieves try to steal vehicles from the Highway Patrol.

6.00 *Blankety Blank*: Last in the present series of word games. The guests: Lorraine Chase, Kenyon Everett; Noel Gordon, Patrick Moore, Cleo Laine and Paul Shand. With Terry Wogan.

7.00 *Cannon and Ball*: The return of the comedy duo in their own show. The line-up of guests includes Cliff Richard, Windsor Davies and Rocky Sharpe and the Replays.

7.45 *Punchlines*: The celebrity partners, Matthew Kelly and Winifred Willis, join contestants Yvonne Carroll and John Davey.

8.15 *Hart to Hart*: Robert Wagner and Stefanie Powers as the sleuthing spouses.

9.15 *News* and sports round-up.

9.30 *Film*: High Plains Drifter (1972). Heavily symbolic western, with Clint Eastwood as the sharpshooter who teams up with his old comrade to appoint their sheriff to protect them from a gang of convicts who are seeking revenge against the town. Eastwood also directs.

11.30 *London News* headlines.

12.00 *After Midday Guest*: presenter of this chat show: Auberon Waugh. With Janet Street-Porter, Hunter Davies, John Sessions, Tony Donovan (the photographer), Peter Langman (the restaurateur) and Marilyn (the pop singer).

12.40 *Love Loveliest*: The eccentric singer in a concert filmed in Canada. With guitarist Lee Chappell. Followed by *Night Thoughts*.



Deborah Grant and John Nettles in Bergerac (BBC 1, 8.40pm), the first in a new series, set in Jersey.

BBC 2

10.10 *Open University*: Until 11.25.

2.15 *Saturday Cinema*: Rue and Cry (1947) Famous English comedy about some London youngsters who discover that their favourite weekly magazine is being used as a channel of communication between a criminal and his gang. With Alastair Sim and Jack Warner. Director: Charles Crichton.

3.35 *Play Away*: Comedy and music.

4.00 *Saturday Cinema*: Mandy (1952): Moving drama about a child (Mandy Miller) who is born deaf and dumb, and her efforts to learn to communicate at a special school. With Jack Hawkins, Phyllis Calvert and Terence Morgan. Director: Alexander Mackendrick.

5.30 *Whistle Test*: On the Road. Entertainment from Tom Robinson and the Crew.

6.10 *Greek-Language and People*: A Greek wedding: how to find out who is who in a Greek family.

6.35 *Grand Slam*: The final of this year's bridge tournament: Southampton versus Bristol. Commentary by Jeremy Flint, of *Parabola*.

7.00 *News* and sports round-up.

7.20 *Zubin Mehta Masterclass*: Five young conductors, under Sir Zubin Mehta's expert eye, conduct the opening movement of Mozart's "Prague" Symphony.

8.10 *Fly on the Wall*: The Family. Final episode of the repeated series about the Wilkins family.

8.40 *International Emmy Awards*: Gala from the Sheraton Centre in New York. Seven awards honour the best television from all parts of the world outside the United States.

9.00 *Film*: Elmer Gantry (1960) Skilful movie version of Sinclair Lewis's novel about an unscrupulous travelling salesman (Burt Lancaster) who becomes a hellfire preacher. Co-starring Jean Simmons as a young evangelist and Shirley Jones (an Oscar-winning performance) as a hooker. Directed by Richard Brooks.

11.58 *News* and sports round-up.

12.00 *Twilight Zone Double Bill*: The Purple Testament, starring William Reynolds, and Elegy, starring Cecil Kellaway. Both films are in black-and-white. Ends at 12.55am.

CHANNEL 4

2.00 *A Kind of Living*: Self-sufficiency advice. Comments from members of two differing communities.

2.25 *Film*: Red Dust (1932): Comedy drama set in a rubber plantation in Indo-China with Jean Harlow as the prostitute on the run from the police who wraps a disguised (Clark Gable) around her pretty finger. With Mary Astor, Vivian Fleming.

4.00 *Frost, Raindancer* (1965): Buster Keaton (then aged 70) travels across Canada on a railway motor-trolley. There is no dialogue.

4.25 *Country Boy*: cartoon.

4.35 *The Chocolate Teddy Bears*: Gangster spoof. A book of pretious Hungarian preserves is pressed into unusual service.

5.05 *Brookside*: Two episodes are repeated.

6.35 *How We Learned To Fly*: a tough time for the four intermediates. And personal worries do not help matters, either.

6.35 *News*. And weather. Followed by:-

7.00 *Feedback*: Final film in this archive film series. How television reported the Falklands conflict last year.

7.05 *7 days*: Moral and religious issues behind the headlines.

7.30 *Union World*: The two threats to union freedom: the Official Secrets Act and the pay-off.

7.45 *Here Comes Christmas*: Pupils of St Aiden's School, Harrogate, challenge the new Archbishop of York, John Habgood to defend the faith behind the festive season; 5.50 *News*.

8.00 *Jane Eyre* episode nine (of 11): Zelah Clarke has the title role, with Timothy Dalton as Mr Rochester.

8.30 *Mind How You Go*: Road hazards caused by weather conditions. With Jimmy Savile.

8.40 *Songs of Praise*: from Trefroth, South Wales.

7.15 *Hi-de-Hit*: Novelty night in the holiday camp ballroom. And how an old cottage, complete with old tenant, upsets Joe Maplin's plans for expansion. With Simon Cadell.

7.45 *By the Sword Divided*: Civil War drama serial, episode eight. Sir Martin (Julian Glover) refuses to surrender to the forces of Parliament - and the battle of Amesbury begins in earnest.

8.00 *The Avengers*: A plan to produce a serum that can kill millions (r).

10.00 *Fox*: Episode 10 (of 13): Will Wiley be able to raise the cash to buy Vin's construction business? (r).

11.00 *Interference*: The pirate station keeps trying to rule the air waves.

11.30 *Film*: The Worst of Hollywood. The Thing with Two Heads (1972). Conclusive proof that two heads are not always better than one. Ray Milland is the racial bigot whose head is transplanted on a black man's shoulders. Ends at 12.55am.

BBC 1

9.00 *Heads and Tales*: for the toddlers (r); 9.15 *Sunday Worship*: Jesus and Judaism; 10.10 *Asian Magazines*: The plain man's guide to the world of computers (continued). Songs from *Firenze Begeum*; 10.55 *Maths Help*: equations (r); 10.55 *Digimath*: Spanish course for beginners. Lesson 8 (r); 11.20 *People First*: The education of mentally handicapped children (from BBC2); 11.45 *Business Club*: Raising finance (r).

12.10 *See Hear!* For the deaf and hearing. Rachel Bell and Maggie Wooley review books that are particularly suitable as Christmas gifts for deaf children(r); 1.15 *Good Morning Britain*: from St Matthew's Church, Ipswich; 11.00 *Getting On*: An East of London course in home cooking for the elderly; 11.20 *Canalider*: Children's programme for disabled children (r).

1.30 *ITV/LONDON*

9.25 *LWT Information*: What's on in the LWT area; 9.30 *Herbs for All*: Plants that add flavour to life (r); 10.00 *Morning Worship*: from St Matthew's Church, Ipswich; 11.00 *Getting On*: An East of London course in home cooking for the elderly; 11.20 *Canalider*: Children's programme for disabled children (r).

1.30 *TV-am*

7.25 *Good Morning Britain*: with David Frost who introduces today's Thought for a Sunday speaker.

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1.30 *ITV/LONDON*

9.25 *LWT Information*: What's on in the LWT area; 9.30 *Herbs for All*: Plants that add flavour to life (r); 10.00 *Morning Worship*: from St Matthew's Church, Ipswich; 11.00 *Getting On*: An East of London course in home cooking for the elderly; 11.20 *Canalider*: Children's programme for disabled children (r).

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Sunday

Alfred Brendel, who plays the E major sonata, Op 109 in the Beethoven Piano Sonatas series (BBC2, 3.25pm).

BBC 2

10.10 *Open University*: until 12.30pm.

2.05 *Heroes*: Frank Middlemass, the actor, explains why he has such a high regard for Dickens.

2.35 *Horizon*: Talking Turtles. How children are coping with a computer programme with a speech module - LOGO - designed specifically for learning (r).

3.25 *Beethoven Piano Sonatas*: Alfred Brendel plays the E major sonata, Opus 109.

4.05 *Built in Britain*: A Stone's Throw from the Beach. The old buildings of north Norfolk, including a fisherman's cottage in Sheringham and 17th century Whitton Hall.

4.30 *City Priests*: The spotlight is on the Rev Mano Rumblefish, Anglican vicar of St George's, Southall, from the Punjab.

5.00 *News* headlines. Followed by Book Four: Nicholas Mosley on the second volume of his biography of his father, Sir Oswald, and a discussion with fellow biographers Robert Skidelsky and Bernard Crick.</p